BLOOD
吸血鬼
迫稔雄
34
IV
PROTOPOROS

11月24日

34

追稔雄

sako toshio presents

AZURA'S FORTRESS

CHAPTER 362

THE FORTRESS OF CONSPIRACY

カッ

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SHOUDO

SHOUDO

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カッ

カッ

カッ

MUMBLE
MUMBLE
MUMBLE
BUT I KNOW HE'S AROUND HERE...
I ONLY MOVED MY SIGHT AWAY FOR AN INSTANT AND HE'S DISAPPEARED LIKE A NINJA...
HOW TROUBLE-SOME...
.....
THAT'S... THE FORMER CHIEF OF...
I REMEMBER HE'S "HAL'S" FOLLOWER...
WHICH MEANS,
"HAL" IS AROUND HERE...
THE REFEREE WHO BURIED MINOWA, HUH...
IF MY MEMORY SERVES ME RIGHT, THAT'S...
...
KADOKURA YUUDAI.

STAIRS

!

TSK... JUST FORGET ABOUT THOSE ANNOYING THINGS...

AH!!

IT HURT THAT MUCH EVEN THOUGH I HAVE THIS SHIELD!?

SHIELD OF THE WARRIOR GROUP:
REDUCES 25% OF THE DAMAGE TAKEN

AS I THOUGHT, THE HIGH CLASSES ARE SO STRONG.

B-

"BOOM"!?

CHAMP

REMAINING HP: 65

DAMAGE OVER 50

AND YOU GOT 4 OF YOU THIS TIME!?

YOU CHASED ME DOWN HERE!?

TIPA

BOOM

BOOM
BOOM
CHARIOT!
CHAMP-SAN!!
TOO SLOW!
RYUUSEI, NOW! HEAL ME!
!!
CLING~
AR-ARMOR OF LIFE-SAVING!?
GRIN
HUMPH!
HE'S DEAD!
SMACK
!!
HUMPH!
A PETTY TRICK!
MARCO SLASH!!
SMACK

WE... WE CAN DO IT!!

IT'S "SMACK"!

IT WORKED !!

IT...

MARCO'S ATTACK...

WHAT THE HELL!

WHA...

ARE YOU PEOPLE!?

WHO THE HELL

WE'RE HERE

TO TAKE DOWN THIS FORTRESS!!

WHAT ARE YOU SAYING!

WE ARE

PLAYERS FROM TIPA!

THAT'S ENOUGH, RYUUSEI.

YOU CAN BE THANKFUL THAT I'M NOT LETTING YOU BE NAKED.

HE DOESN'T HAVE ANY BIOS ON HIM.

TSK!

WE REALLY DEFEATED A HIGH CLASS PLAYER... AWESOME!!

LET'S GO!!

ONCE WE LOWER THE FLAG, IT'S OVER.

WE'VE COMPLETED THE MISSION.

AND DON'T FORGET TO CHARGE YOUR VEST!

THE VEST IS SHUT DOWN DURING THE "MAINTENANCE TIME". TAKE A GOOD REST BETWEEN 0:00AM AND 6:00AM!

ENJOY THE GAME!

WHEN IT'S 6:00AM,

AND IF HE HADN'T BEEN ALONE, THERE WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN A CHANCE FOR US TO WIN FOR SURE.

IF HE HADN'T LET HIS GUARD DOWN...

THE "MAINTEN-ANCE TIME".

IT'S ALL BECAUSE WE ASSAULTED THE FORTRESS

WHEN THE TIME WAS CLOSE TO

NOTHING ...

...

!

UGH....

WHAT'S WRONG, MARCO!?

.....

THERE'S A SLOT UNDER THE FLAG.

THE FLAG WILL BE LOWERED DOWN AFTER YOU CONNECT YOUR VEST TO IT.

EVERY-ONE...

!

IS PARA-LYZED...

CAN-TEEN

TIPA
TIPA
WHO DID THIS...
ARE YOU. A PLAYER FROM SHOUDO?
SHOUDO
WERE THEY DEFEATED BY YOU?
YEAH.
YOU HAVE TO FINISH ALL THE FOOD, YOU KNOW?
...
...WHO?
ARE THERE EGGS?
YES.
WITH "RYUUSEI", "CHAMP", AND "KAJI"!
YOU ALONE?
MARCO DEFEATED THEM!
YES!

FLAG

PLUG IN

WE'VE TAKEN THE FORTRESS.

NOW,

WHY DIDN'T THE FLAG

COME DOWN!?

...

?

WHY...?

WHO DID THIS?

ARE YOU OKAY?

HE...

...

!

FUCK~

HE'S A HIGH CLASS FOR SURE.

ALL MY ATTACKS WERE "POKK" AND "SWISH".

SWISH

SWISH

POKK

POKK

HUH?

SHIT!

HE SUDDENLY SHOWED UP...

LET'S GO.

HEY,

THEN,

LET ME TAKE THESE BIOS.

"I'M FROM SHOUDO,"

AND HE... HE SAID:

HE LEFT TIPA AND JOINED SHOUDO?

USOGUI'S ALLY!

MORE-OVER,

HE'S ALREADY A HIGH CLASS!?

AH. .

WAI-WAIT...

"I'M USOGUI'S ALLY, HAL."

...

I SEE...

NO ONE AMONG OUR TEAM

HAS REACHED HIGH CLASS YET.

.....

!

THERE'S SOMETHING WRONG.

IT'S A CONSPIRACY FOR SURE.

CAN-
TEEN

THIS IS...
A CONSPIRACY
FOR SURE!

EVERYONE
HAS BEEN
DEFEATED!

NO
WAY!

TIPA
IS HERE
TO TAKE THE
FORTRESS~

HAHA...

AND THE TWO KINGDOMS ARE TEAMING UP AND ATTACKING THIS FORTRESS!?

USOGUI FROM TIPA HAS STRETCHED HIS HAND TO SHOUDO.

TIPA?

TIPA IS HERE TOO!?

THE PROBLEM IS THAT

SHOUDO AND TIPA ARE COOPERATING...

CHIEF!

IT'S JUST A FORTRESS.

CALM DOWN.

TAKE THAT, OGINOME!

SHOUDO, FUJITSUBO

AS I THOUGHT, "NOBUKO-CHAN" IS SO STRONG!!

BY THE WAY,

YEAH.

WHAT HAPPENED?

BUT THE FLAG DIDN'T COME DOWN.

WE'VE DEFEATED ORDEKA,

AND PLUGGED IN THE VEST,

HE'S A HIGH CLASS AND THE CAPTAIN,

ISN'T IT STRANGE?

YEAH.

COME TO THINK OF IT, "ORDEKA" DIDN'T HAVE ANY BIOS ON HIM, RIGHT?

...

IN THAT CASE...

!

COULD IT BE THAT "ORDEKA" LOST HIS BIOS BEFORE HE MET US?

AND SOMEHOW, HE'S NOT THE CAPTAIN OF THIS FORTRESS ANYMORE...

ARE YOU

PLAYERS FROM TIPA?

BANG BANG

TIPA

AZURA

TIPA

HOUDA

WHERE DID

THE OTHER ONE GO?

IF YOUR HANDLE NAMES ARE THE SAME AS YOUR REAL NAMES,

AS I THOUGHT.

THEN...

YEAH, WHERE'S "MARCO", KAJI?

...

KAJI... MARCO...

...

AND...

"MARCO",

"KAJI",

!?

"HAL"... 3 OF USOGUI'S ALLIES ARE ATTACKING THIS FORTRESS, HUH.

KAJI... IS THAT GUY...

...

WAIT, RYUU-SEI!

LET'S GET HIM!

WHAT IS THIS GUY TALKING ABOUT!?

THAT GUY IS...

YES,

LALO'S

LALO'S ALLY

FLOYD LEE

ALLY...

7 PLAYERS FROM TIPA!!

IT'S CON-FIRMED!

THE PLAYERS WHO ATTACKED THE FORTRESS, HOW MANY OF THEM ARE THERE!?

IT SEEMS SHOUDO WAS ALSO INVOLVED AFTER ALL!!

3 PLAYERS FROM SHOUDO!!

I COULD CONFIRM THE OTHER GROUP TOO.

TAKE THAT FORTRESS DOWN!!

.....

SUCH STRENGTH... WE THINK IT COULD BE A HIGH CLASS. CHIEF FUJITSUBO IS CURRENTLY CONFIRMING THE REST.

THE BATTLE DATA OF THAT SHOUDO PLAYER HAS COME OUT!!

YES,

SHOUDO CHIEF FUJITSUBO

DO YOUR BEST, NOBUKO-CHAN!

CHAPTER 363

INSTIGATING EACH OTHER

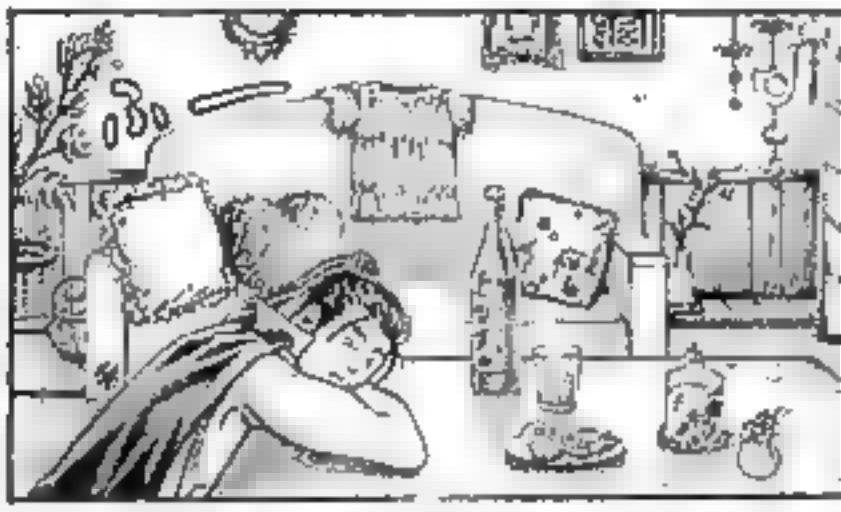
WHY IS HE IN MY ROOM...? MOREOVER, THIS IS THE SHOWER ROOM...

WHAT?

UHM

OKAY...

CAN I BORROW YOUR VEST?



I DID SAY I'D DO ANYTHING FOR HIM,

BUT...

COME HOME QUICKLY...

HAL-KUN...

THANK YOU TOO.

NO, NO, IT'S ALRIGHT.

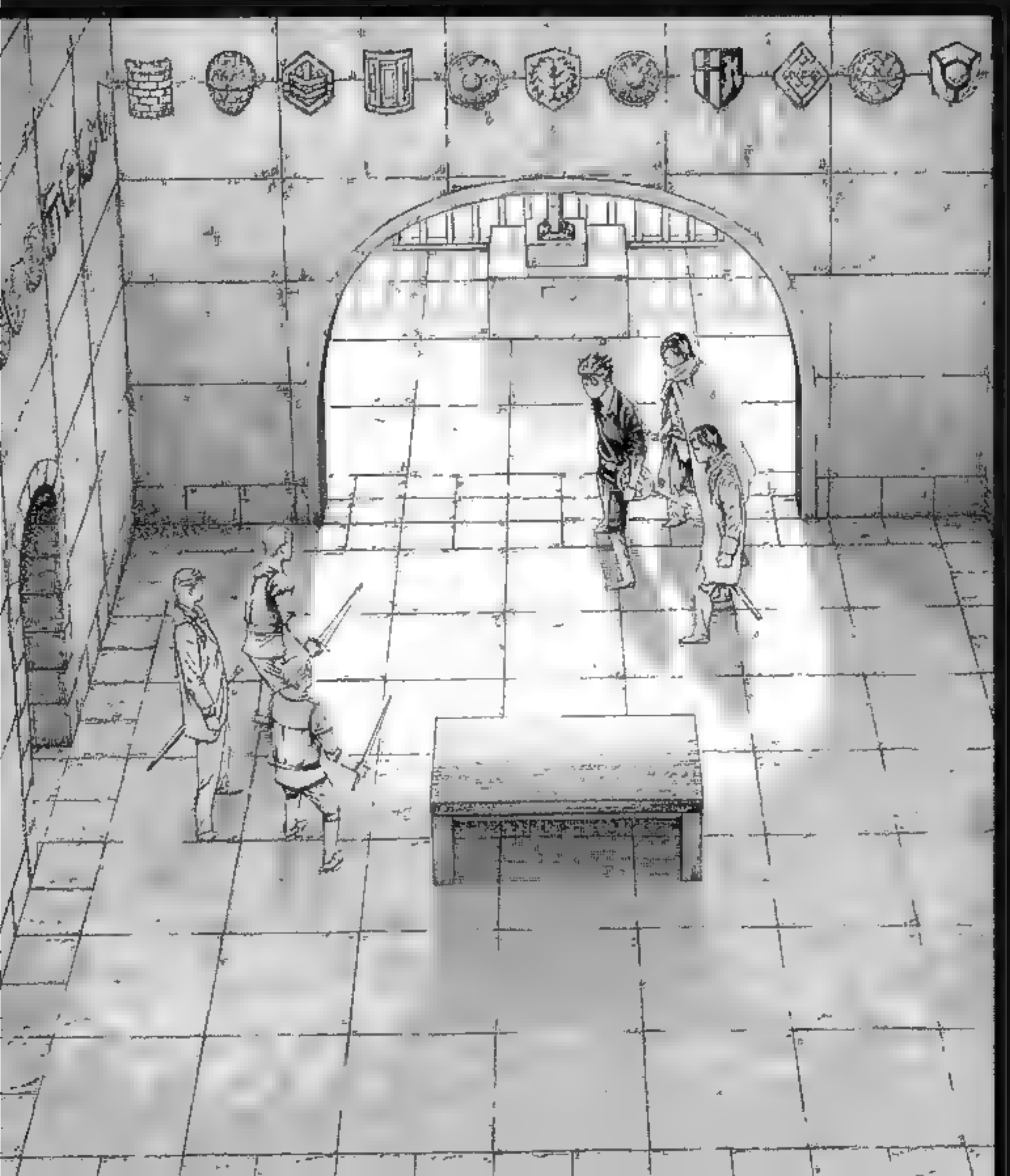
THANKS, NOBUKO.

LENDING YOUR VEST TO SOMEONE IS A GRAVE AND FORBIDDEN SIN THAT NO ONE SHOULD EVER DO...

IF THE DEVELOPERS END UP LEARNING THAT I DID IT ON PURPOSE... I MAY HAVE TO PAY A BIG PENALTY...

HE WAS ASKING SO NATURALLY AS IF HE WAS SAYING "PASS ME THE SOY SAUCE", SO I REPLIED ON REFLEX...

CHAPTER 363
INSTIGATING EACH OTHER



SOON,

THE GAME WILL ENTER THE MAINTENANCE TIME, RIGHT?

STARE

DEFEAT ME, THE CAPTAIN, QUICKLY, YOU SEE.

IT WILL BE TOO LATE TO TAKE DOWN OUR FORTRESS

IF YOU DON'T

IS A BIT STRANGE...

THIS GUY...

KA... KAJI...

嘘吹いぬ。

"HAL IS HERE TOO", HE SAID? A COMMON ATTACK FROM 2 KINGDOMS... COULD IT BE SOMETHING THAT BAKU-SAN HAD PLANNED ALREADY?
ALSO... THE MYSTERIOUS ALLY, "HAL"...
SOMETHING'S OFF ABOUT HIM. .
DON'T TELL ME, THIS GUY IS... A HIGH CLASS?
WHY IS HE SO RELAXED... YEAH, SOMETHING'S DEFINITELY OFF...
BY THE WAY, THIS GUY...
SOME-THING'S DEFINITELY OFF...
HIGH CLASS PLAYERS ARE NOT PEOPLE WE CAN KEEP ENCOUNTERING SO EASILY LIKE THAT.
YEAH.
NO WAY, RIGHT, CHAMP-SAN?
BUT IF THEY'RE ONLY NORMAL CLASS, THEN WE HAVE A CHANCE.
3 VS 3, WITH THE SAME FIGHTING CONDITIONS... WE'RE STRONG TOO.
BUT, IF THERE IS ONE AMONG THEM, WE CANNOT WIN.
YEAH, THERE DEFINITELY CAN'T BE ONE...

I'M NEITHER BLUFFING, NOR PLOTTING ANYTHING.

I MEAN,

?

WHY WOULDN'T I?

YOU'RE PUTTING OFF A MIGHTY AIR, HUH.

EVEN THOUGH YOU KNOW WE STILL HAVE "MARCO" AND "HAL" ON OUR SIDE,

YOU,

WHA!?

DAMN! WE'LL LOSE!!

SO HE'S... A HIGH CLASS AFTER ALL!?

MARCO ISN'T HERE...

HUM... BUT...

CHAMP-SAN, THIS MIGHT BE A BLUFF!

THIS GUY

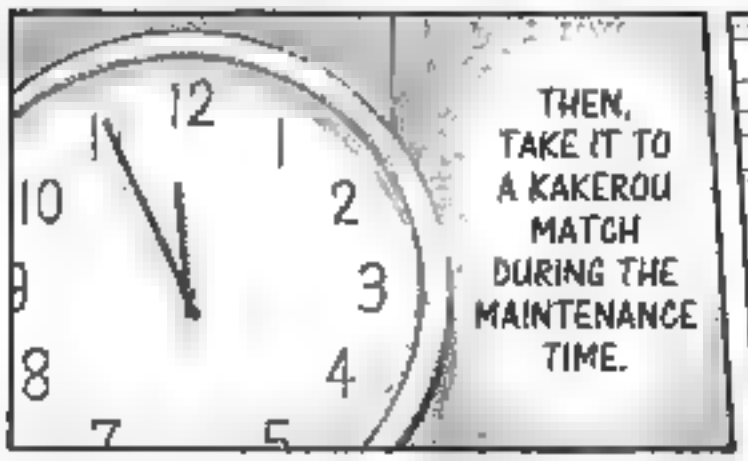
TO OPPOSE YOU,

IS ENOUGH.

LEAVE IT TO ME!
RYUUSEI, SUPPORT US!

GO.

HE'S COMING.. WE HAVE NO CHOICE!
!!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3
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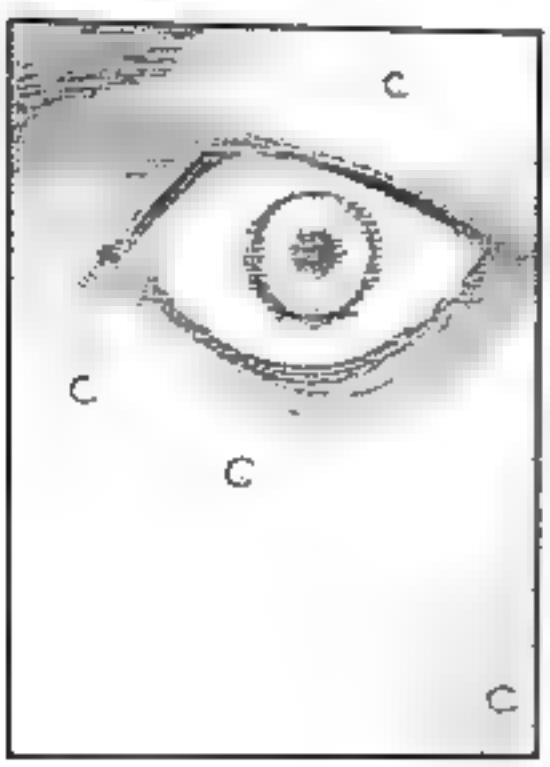
10
8
THEN, TAKE IT TO A KAKEROU MATCH DURING THE MAINTENANCE TIME.

WE'LL HAVE NO OTHER CHOICE THAN TO RUN AWAY.
IF THIS GUY TURNS OUT TO REALLY BE A HIGH CLASS.

SO MANY OPENINGS... NO WAY HE'S A HIGH CLASS.
HE'S LIKE A BEGINNER ...
WHAT ...?
NO WAY OTHER THAN THAT!!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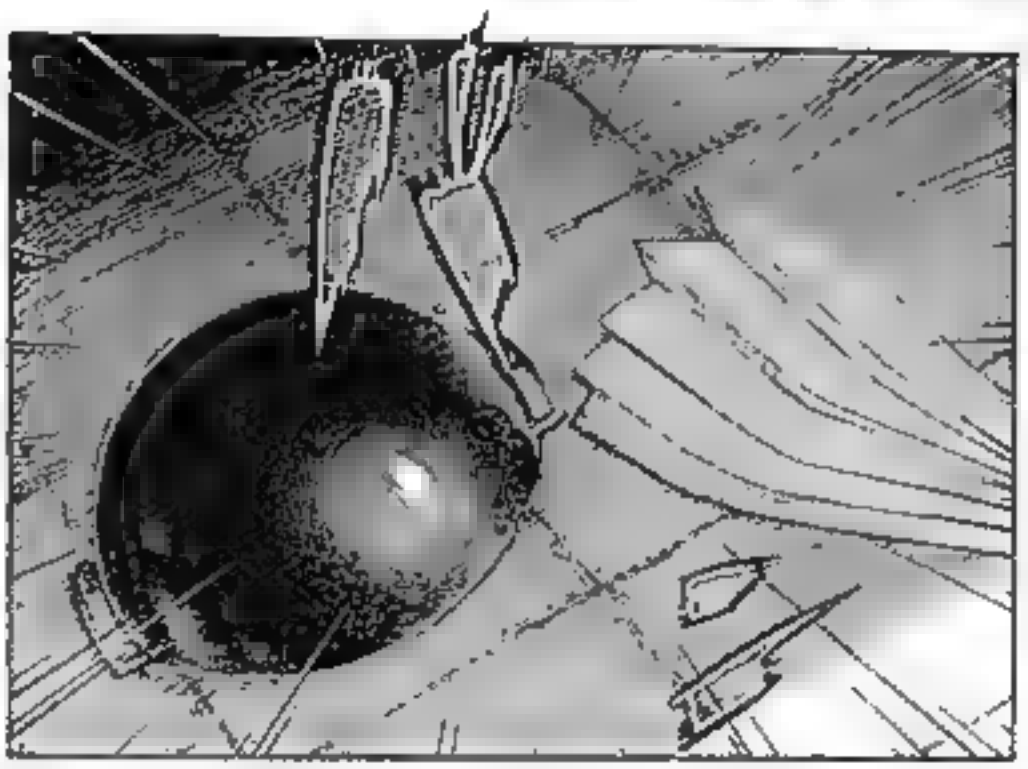


STOP!

CHAMP-SAN!

HUH!?

WHAT NOW!?

DON'T ATTACK HIM!!

SMIRK

...

GU!

...

WHAT'S UP SUDDENLY, KAJI?

SHEATH

NOT A PLAYER FROM AZURA.

THAT GUY IS PROBABLY

CHAMP-SAN,

THIS GUY HAS GATHERED PLAYERS FROM TIPA AND SHOUDO TO PROTECT HIM.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN!?

HOW ...?

WHAT!?

HE'S PROBABLY FROM TIPA.

!

IF MY GUESS IS RIGHT THEN IT'S QUITE A STRATEGY

YOU'LL BE PENALIZED FOR ATTACKING A PLAYER FROM YOUR OWN KINGDOM.

IF YOU ATTACK HIM NOW,

ONE PLAYER FOR EACH KINGDOM,

SHOUDO AZURA TIPA

ALLY HIMSELF ALLY

BY DOING SO, THEY ARE ABLE TO ATTACK WITHOUT PENALTY ANYONE FROM ANY KINGDOM,

AND AT THE SAME TIME, TRICK PLAYERS FROM ANY OTHER KINGDOM.

WE'LL BE TREATED AS "CRIMINALS" IF WE END UP VIOLATING THE RULE TO NEVER ATTACK A PLAYER FROM OUR OWN KINGDOM.

AND WILL END UP FALLING GREATLY BEHIND THE FRONT LINES OF THE GAME...

IT WILL ALSO END UP GREATLY DAMAGING BAKU-SAN'S PLANS.

THIS IS WHAT THIS GUY WAS LOOKING FOR...

A WAY TO WIN, WITHOUT WINNING... OF COURSE, HE'D BE SO RELAXED.

BUT, WOULD THERE BE PLAYERS WHO'D AGREE TO HELP HIM...?

IT MAY BE THAT THOSE TWO ARE NOT PLAYERS,

BUT "OUTLAWS", WHO PROBABLY STOLE THEIR VESTS FROM LEGITIMATE PLAYERS OR SOMETHING LIKE THAT.

REMEMBER THE MOMENT HE MADE HIS ENTRANCE HERE.

BUT KAJI, HOW DID YOU UNDERSTAND ALL THAT?

CHAMP SAN,

PLAYERS FROM TIPA?

AR

YO

SHOUDO
TIPA!
SHOUDO
TIPA
IT'S TO HELP US UNDERSTAND WHETHER THE PERSON IN FRONT OF US IS A FOE FROM ANOTHER KINGDOM, OR A FRIEND FROM OURS.
AZURA
TIPA!
AZURA
TIPA
TIPA
SAME KINGDOM
NO SOUND
TIPA
WHEN YOU MEET ENEMY KINGDOM'S PLAYERS,
AN ALARM WILL RING FROM OUR VESTS, RIGHT?
AND "KAJI"...
"MADARA-ME"...
IN WHAT WORLD HAVE THESE GUYS BEEN LIVING IN UNTIL NOW!?
HOW COULD YOU... GET ALL THIS IN AN INSTANT?
TIPA
AZURA
TIPA
SHOUDO
BY MAKING SOME NOISE.
AND WANTED TO HIDE IT
HE KNEW THE IDENTITY OF THOSE TWO WOULD BE DISCOVERED DUE TO THE SOUND SYSTEM,
KAJI...
BUT,

TO PERFORM SUCH AN EASY TO SEE THROUGH TRICK,

HOW LAUGHABLE.

THAT GUY HAD TO CLAP WITH ALL HIS MIGHT, LIKE A MARCHING BAND *PERFORMER.

KAJI

TAKAOMI,

HANDS UP~

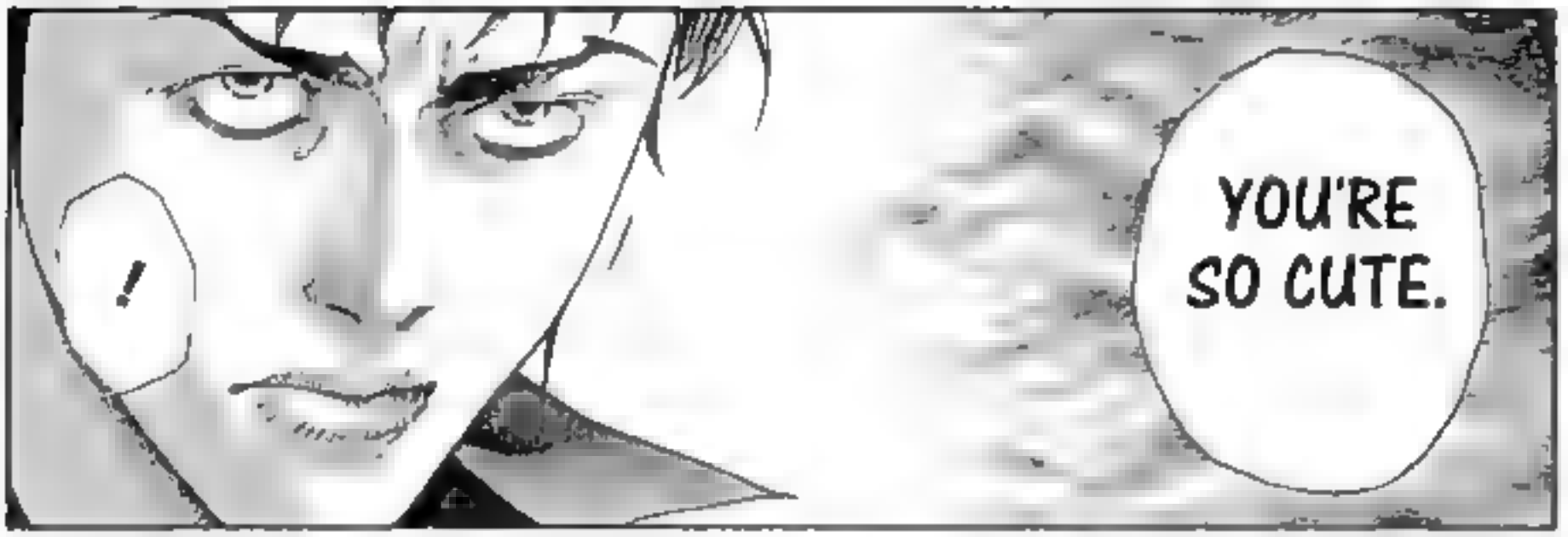
…

LIKE THAT.

CLAP,

CLAP,

*HE SAYS "CHINDON-YA", WHICH IS A TYPE OF TRADITIONAL JAPANESE STREET PERFORMANCE. SEARCH IT ON WIKI FOR MORE INFO.


!
YOU'RE SO CUTE.

YEAH, JUST LIKE THAT.
WANTING TO BE PRAISED JUST AS IF YOU'D WON FIRST PLACE IN A RACE...
YOU MADE MY HEART RACE...
OKAY,

LET ME PET YOU, TAKA-BOY.

OR WAS IT... TAKA KUN?

COME ON,

"DADDY" WILL PRAISE YOU.

I'LL PRAISE YOU.

HUH?

WHAT'S THAT?

SO YOU CAN'T EVEN REMEMBER WHAT THEY USED TO CALL YOU?

IS IT BECAUSE YOU HAD SO MANY OF THEM

KADO-KURA-SAN!!

ERE ARE QUITE A LOT OF UNLUCKY GUYS LIKE YOU..

Y... YOU...

STARE

WELL, IT'S NOT SO RARE AFTER ALL. DON'T TAKE IT SO PERSONALLY.

I'LL HOLD A KAKEROU MATCH.

NO.2

REFEREE
KADOKURA YUUDAI

REFEREE...

CLUB KAKEROU,

...

SUCH AN INTERESTING ORGANI-ZATION...

I WILL... WILL...

I'LL LEAVE THE REST UP TO YOU.

I'LL DEFEAT HIM IN THE MATCH AND

HAVE HIM BE EXILED FROM THE ISLAND. THAT IS MY WISH.

ドドド

ドドド

ドドド

ドドド

NO.4

REFEREE
MAKAMI BORO

KAJI
TAKAOMI.

MY
NAME
IS

OF MY LIFE,

THE DISSATIS-FACTION

I FEEL LIKE I WANT TO CRY SOME TIMES.

EVEN NOW.

I STILL NOTICE THESE STRONG EMOTIONS INSIDE OF ME THAT I CAN'T SUPPRESS.

EVEN THOUGH I AM IN AN ENVIRONMENT WHERE I COULD HAVE FORGOTTEN ABOUT ALL OF THIS,

I'M LACKING,

AND SOMETHING THAT

IS BECAUSE I FELT HE COULD BE THE ONE

THE REASON I AM STANDING RIGHT NOW NEXT TO BAKU-SAN,

TO ALLOW ME TO ERASE ALL MY "PAST FAILURES" AND

DIE IN AN OUTSTANDING WAY...

CHAPTER 364
BEATDOWN

YOU DIDN'T THINK IT THROUGH, LALO.
NO ONE COULD EXPECT USOGUI TO ATTACK US SO QUICKLY... IT COULD BE PRETTY BAD IF WE LOSE THE FORTRESS RIGHT NOW, RIGHT?
RIGHT NOW, I NEED TO FOCUS ON
DEFEATING THIS GUY AND TAKING DOWN THE FORTRESS!!
NO NEED TO THINK SO MUCH.

INSIDE RIGHT NOW.

MOREOVER, THERE ARE 3 OF USOGUI'S ALLIES...

MARCO

KAJI

HAL

THE SYSTEM WILL "MAKE ANYONE FROM AZURA IN THE FORTRESS" THE FORTRESS LEADER, AS LONG AS HE IS STILL STANDING. SO THE FORTRESS WILL FALL EVEN IF I TAKE MY LEAVE.

LALO'S VICTORY WILL BE GUARANTEED FOR SURE.

WELL, THIS IS ALSO A CHANCE TO TAKE DOWN ALL 3 OF THEM. I HATE TEDIOUS WORK, BUT LET'S SAY IF I CAN FINISH ALL OF THEM RIGHT NOW,

...ONCE YOU DEFEAT HIM IN THE MATCH".

YOU BOTH HAVE THE COMMON OBJECTIVE OF "HAVING THE OPPONENT BE EXILED FROM THE ISLAND...

CAN WE MOVE FORWARD, THINKING THAT BOTH YOUR BETS HAVE THE SAME VALUE?

REFEREE SAN?

HOW ARE YOU GOING TO JUDGE THIS.

SO?

AT ALL...

WHAT THEY ARE BOTH WANTING DOES NOT MATCH IN VALUE

KYA...

KYA.. DOKURA..

I'LL HIT YOU...

I COULD EASILY TAKE CARE OF YOU GUYS IN THE MORNING.

I HAVE A WALL OF 2 PEOPLE RIGHT NOW

YOU DON'T GET IT, DO YOU...

INDEED, WINNING HERE WOULD MEAN WE WILL TAKE DOWN THE FORTRESS, BUT WE WILL ALSO LOSE SOMETHING IF WE GET DEFEATED... IT'S THE SAME.

KUKU...

EVEN IF I COULD BE GENEROUS AND SAY THAT MY EXILING AND KAJI'S HAVE THE SAME VALUE,

THAT'S RIGHT.

IF YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND THE VALUE OF IT, I COULD EASILY CHANGE MY BET TO "MY EXILE 'ONLY'".

DEFEATING ME IN THE MATCH WILL CAUSE THE RESULT OF "LOSING THE FORTRESS".

MEANING THE BURDEN IS HIGHER.

MY RETIRING IMPLIES LOSING THE FORTRESS.

WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?

IF I WIN, THESE GUYS TOO

WILL HAVE TO DISAPPEAR FROM THIS WORLD.

!!

THESE GUYS.

IT WOULD MAKE SENSE IF IT'S BECAUSE HE HAS PLAYERS KNOWLEDGEABLE OF THE GAME AT HIS SIDE.

USOGUI HAS BEEN PROGRESSING THROUGH THE GAME AT QUITE A HIGH SPEED.

BUT THAT WOULD BE TOO GREEDY.

I'D ALSO WANT TO INCLUDE "MARCO" AND "HAL" IN THIS,

IN ORDER FOR YOU TO BET THE EXILING OF ANOTHER NORMAL PLAYER, IT WOULD REQUIRE US TO HAVE HIS PERMISSION.

THIS IS DIFFERENT FROM THE TIME LALO SAMA MADE SUCH A BET.

IT'S PROBABLY... THIS GUY.

OKAY WITH IT.

I'M

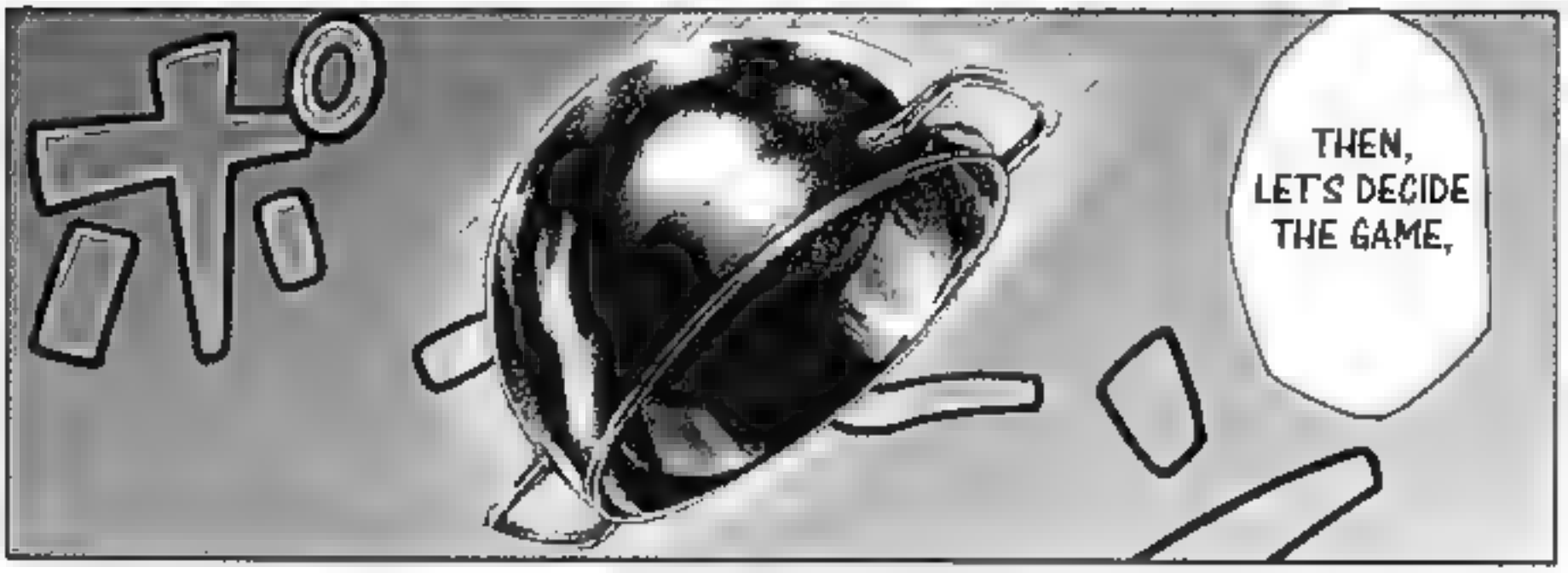
I'M LEAVING EVERYTHING TO KAJI.

.....

SO, WHAT WILL YOU DO?

I'M NOT GOOD AT SUCH NEGOTIATIONS AND TRICKS, YOU KNOW...

THAT ONE LOOKS USELESS ANYWAY
WELL
SO, WE ARE ALL IN AGREEMENT ON THE TERMS, RIGHT?
ALRIGHT
REFUSE
..
I
!!
CHA... CHAMP-SAN...


THEN, LET'S DECIDE THE GAME,

!
REFEREE MAKAMI...

IS FUUUN~

KYADO KURAAA~

THIIIIS~

KADOKURA-SAN...

UNBELIEV-ABLE.

SEEMS LIKE THE TIP OF THE WEDGE STRUCK QUITE DEEP

YOU

COULD NOT BLOCK THAT HIT...?

OH?

YOU ARE NOT

THE YOU WE KNEW ANYMORE, ARE YOU?

THERE ARE WOUNDS THE BODY CAN HEAL,

AND SOME WOUNDS IT CAN'T.

...AH

AHH!

UNFORTUN-
ATELY,
YOU'LL DIE
ON THIS
ISLAND

BECAUSE
OF THAT.

TUUUN!

AHHHHHHH

INDEED~

THIS
IS

SEEMS LIKE HE HAS BEEN REPRESSING IT... YET...

DAMAGES TO THE BRAIN DO CHANGE A PERSON'S PERSONALITY.

HE'S LIKE SOMEBODY TOTALLY DIFFERENT..

OH ...?

BOSS,

HAVE YOU HEARD FROM REFEREE AMEN.

THE REQUEST MADE BY THE MANAGER OF THE DEVELOPERS, "DAIBA"?

I HAVE.

SHEATH

I HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY.

IN ORDER FOR SUCH INCIDENTS TO NOT HAPPEN AGAIN, HE WANTS US TO...

INCIDENTS LIKE THE ONE WITH ROBERT K MAY HAPPEN AGAIN.

EVEN IF THEY ARE SUPPORTING US IN EXILING THE PLAYERS ON THE SURFACE...

WHISPER WHISPER

IN THAT CASE,

WHISPER

...A CORPSE THAT SAYS NO WORDS...

...MAKE THE EXILED PLAYER

ACCEPT IT EASILY!

YOU WOULD NEVER

TO THINK YOU'D HAVE THE SAME IDEA AS ME. EVEN IF THE OLD YOU COULD HAVE GUESSED IT,

I THINK I PREFER THE NEW YOU!

BO

BOHO

HO HO

WON-DER-FUL,

TO THINK

KYA...

KYADO-KURA...

YOU...

PLEASE, COME IN

SORRY FOR MAKING YOU WAIT.

!

WE HAVE THOUGHT OF THE GAME HERE JUST NOW.

PLEASE THINK OF IT AS US ENSURING FAIRNESS AND EQUAL TREATMENT FOR THE BOTH OF YOU.

KADOKURA-SAN?

...

KADOKURA-SAN.

WHAT KIND OF GAME IS IT?

YOU'LL GO THROUGH 3 ROUNDS IN 1 GAME.

ONE PERSON HITS, ONE PERSON DEFENDS.

IT'S *THE GAME THAT EVERYONE KNOWS.

SAW IT, RIGHT?

YOU

パシ

LOOK, THIS.

*IT'S A JAPANESE GAME THAT'S USUALLY COMBINED WITH ROCK-PAPER-SCISSORS.

PLEASE STAND BESIDE OF THAT THING, ON THE SIDE YOU WANT.

NOW,

A DECISIVE... ENDING?

UNTIL WE COME TO A DECISIVE ENDING.

...

WELL, THIS SIDE.

FROM THE SECOND GAME ON.

WE'LL HAVE YOU EXCHANGE POSITIONS EACH GAME.

BOTH OF YOU CHOSE RANDOMLY.

GOOD.

AND, PLEASE PICK UP ONE.

NOW,

TAKE A LOOK UNDER THE TABLECLOTH IN FRONT OF YOU,

YES, YOU CAN CHOOSE

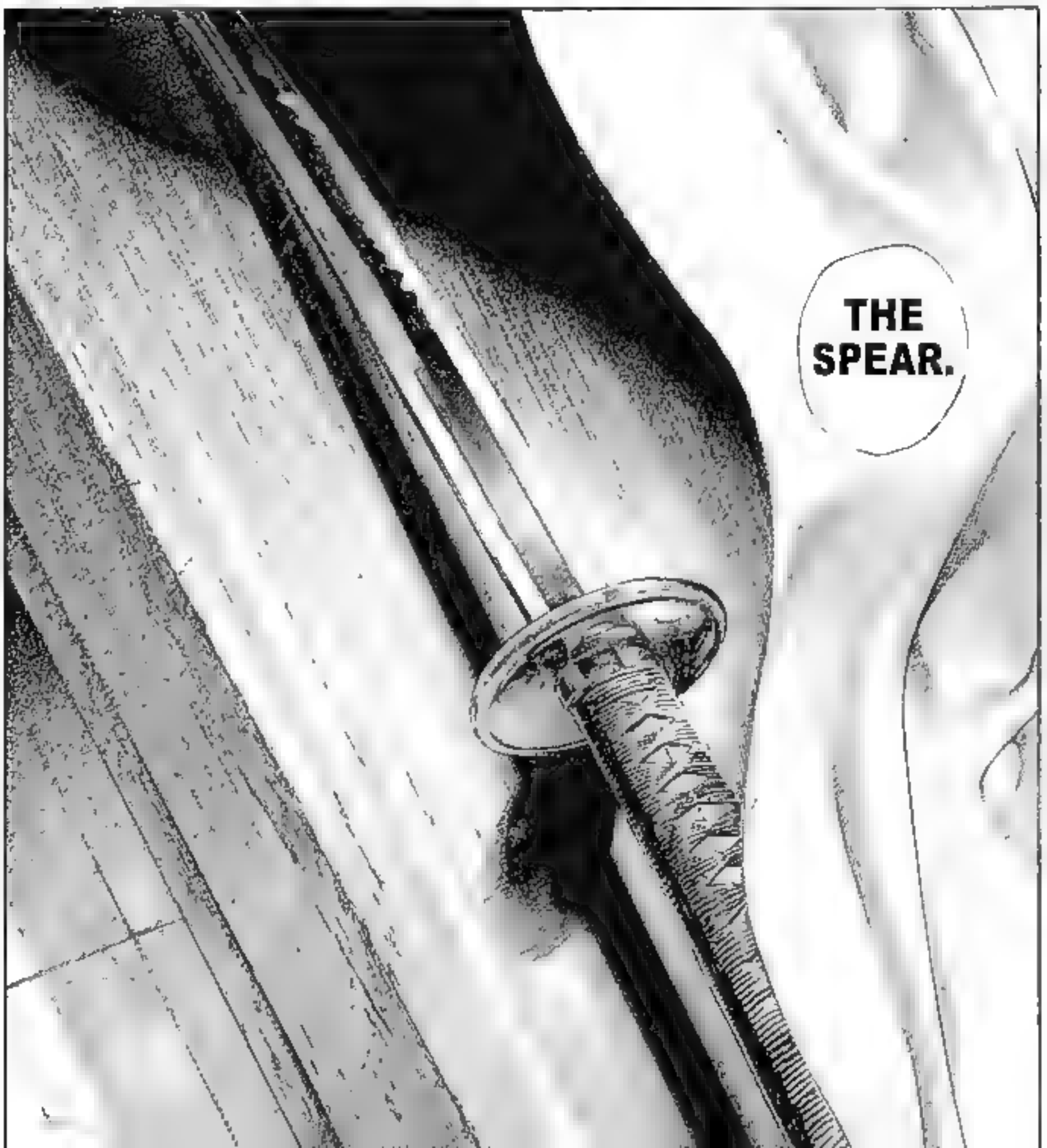
THE ITEMS TO USE IN THE GAME.

ヘ？

…

THE SHIELD,

嘘吐い㉕。



ONCE YOU'VE MADE YOUR CHOICE,

A BEAT-DOWN.

IT IS TIME FOR

CHAPTER. 365

GAME OF CONTRADICTION

I SEE!!

KU KU...

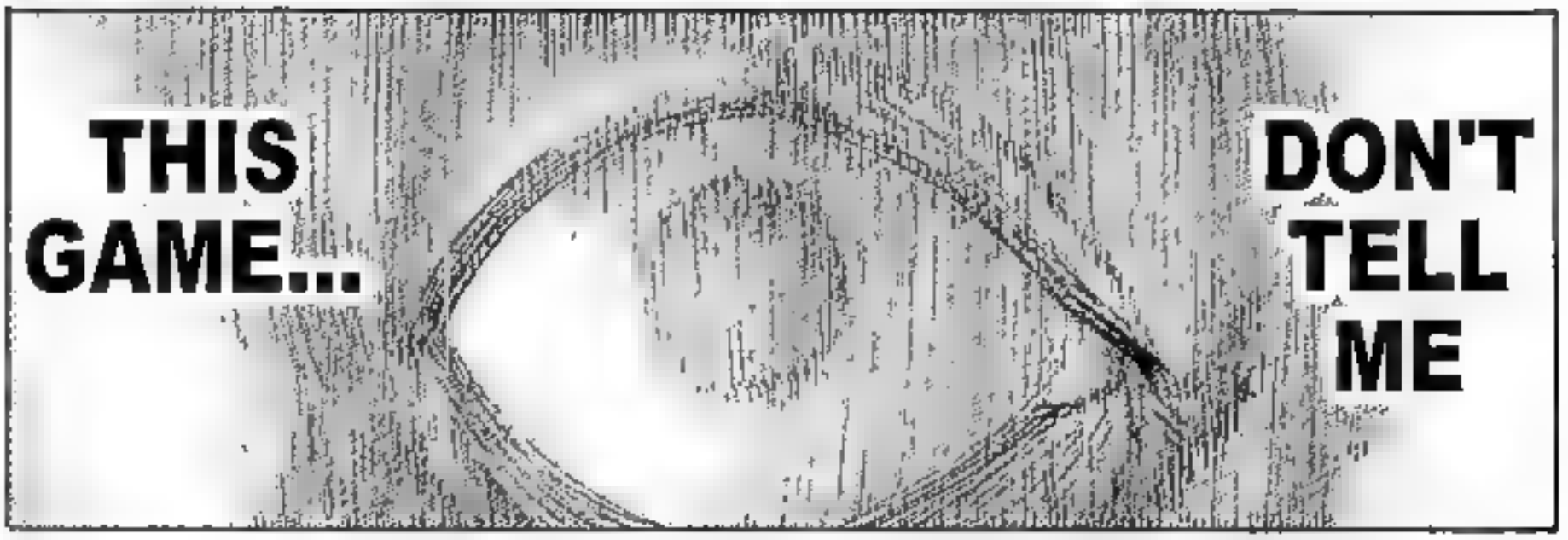
HU...

DON'T...

INDEED, THIS GAME WILL HAVE A DEFINITIVE ENDING...

REALLY.

YOU GUYS THOUGHT OF SUCH AN INTERESTING GAME!


THIS GAME...
DON'T TELL ME

WILL BE AN IMPORTANT ITEM WHICH YOU'LL GET BY PUTTING YOUR LIFE ON THE BALANCE LATER.
NOW, PLEASE CHOOSE ONE OF THEM.

WHAT'S UP WITH THOSE SHIELDS?
WHAT KIND OF GAME
THE THING YOU'RE NOW GOING TO CHOOSE
COULD THEY BE PLAYING WITH THOSE?

THIS IS A KAKEROU MATCH.
THEY ARE REFER-EES.

I CAN UNDER-STAND...
WHAT... WHAT A GAME...
THIS IS NOTHING TO JOKE ABOUT... NOR IS IT A CHILD'S GAME...

1ST ROUND

I'LL SELECT THE "SHIELD" WE WILL BE USING IN EACH GAME.

FLOYD WILL SELECT THE "WEAPON"

2ND ROUND

3RD ROUND

WITH THE ASSORTED SET OF "WEAPON AND SHIELD".

WE WILL THEN PLAY THAT GAME OFTEN SEEN IN TV GAME SHOWS,

THIS IS

SOMETHING DIFFERENT.

THIS CAN NOT BE SUCH A NICE AND FUN GAME TO PLAY.

YET,

PROBA-
BLY...

NO,

IF WE'RE TO
ASSUME
THAT SWORD
WAS REAL,

LOOKING
BACK AT
THE RECENT
EVENTS,

DEFINITELY,

IT WILL BE
PART OF
THE GAME.

I FAIL TO BLOCK EVEN ONCE...

IF

嘘吐い㉞。

CHAMP-SAN,
YOU'RE BECOM-ING PALE!

WHAT ARE YOU SAYING SUDDEN-LY?
HUH?
IF ANYTHING HAPPENS TO ME, I'LL LEAVE BAKU-SAN TO YOU.

AH .. OK, UNDER-STOOD.
...?
ALSO ...

SWALLOW
HEY,
KAJI, ARE YOU ALRIGHT!?

THESE SHIELDS ARE ALL
DIFFERENT.

...
UN-UNDER-STOOD.

YES. AH,
ARE YOU ALRIGHT?

THEN,
PLEASE, GO ON AND CHOOSE A SHIELD.

IT'S QUITE LIGHT-WEIGHT AND

WILL NEVER WITHSTAND THE SWORD'S ATTACK...

THIS ONE IS MADE OF WOOD.

IT'S A WOODEN SHIELD.

IT SEEMS... TO BE QUITE STURDY.

BUT IS ALSO THICK...

IS QUITE ELASTIC.

THE SECOND ONE...

I'D RATE THEM IN TERMS OF STRENGTH LIKE THIS.

THESE 3 SHIELDS,

WOODEN SHIELD

THICK SHIELD

IRON SHIELD

WEAK

STRONG

IT'S PRETTY HEAVY... MORE THAN 10 KG AT LEAST.

BUT, IT'S STILL LIGHT FOR IRON... COULD IT BE SOME KIND OF ALLOY.. ?

IS THIS ONE ABLE TO WITHSTAND A BLOW...?

IRON...?

THE LAST ONE IS

THE IRON SHIELD.

ATTACKS YOU CANNOT WITHSTAND.

SEEMS LIKE THERE WILL BE SOME COMBINATION AT PLAY.

ATTACKS YOU CAN WITHSTAND AND

INDEED... IT'S NOT THAT SIMPLE.

SPEAR AND... SHIELD...

I DEFINITELY WOULDN'T WANT TO GET HIT BY "THIS ONE"...

EVEN SO,

ONLY IF...

THERE IS A NEXT ROUND

HAVE YOU MADE YOUR CHOICE?

FROM THE NEXT ROUND ON, THE TIME TO SELECT YOUR ITEM WILL BE

MADE THE SAME AS THIS TIME, 5 MINUTES.

BUT...

THERE'S NO OTHER CHOICE THAN TO GET A FEEL FIRST

FOR NOW.

THERE IS ANOTHER CRITICAL POINT HERE.

BUT,...

THEN, AFTER WE PREPARE THE ITEMS, WE'LL HAVE YOU TWO RE-ENTER THE ROOM.

WHILE YOU BOTH HAVE MADE YOUR CHOICE ON THE SPEAR AND SHIELD, IT DOES NOT MEAN THAT YOU WILL BE AUTOMATICALLY TAKING THE TOOL YOU SELECTED.

IT WILL BE DECIDED BY "BIOS".

THE ONE WHO BET THE MOST BIOS WILL GET THE RIGHT TO "ATTACK".

嘘吐い🎲。

...
REGARDING THIS GAMBLE, "BIOS" WILL ACTUALLY BE THE ELEMENT WHICH INFLUENCES WHETHER YOU "LIVE OR NOT".
IN THE GREEK LANGUAGE, THE WORD "BIOS" MEANS "LIFE"...
THIS WILL ALSO BECOME AN IMPORTANT READ TO MAKE.
HOW MUCH DOES THE OPPONENT HAVE?
THE TOTAL NUMBER OF BIOS IN YOUR POSSESSION WILL NOT BE REVEALED.
ALSO, AS WE CANNOT ENSURE YOU'LL STILL BE IN ONE PIECE AFTER THE MATCH,
OF COURSE YOU COULD LOSE BY NOT BETTING ENOUGH BIOS, OR LOSE EVEN IF YOU GO ALL-IN.
PLEASE REFRAIN FROM LOANING MONEY FROM THE REFEREES.
SO PLEASE ENJOY THE MIND GAMES.

WHISPER
KAJI...
DON'T WORRY.
I AM THE ONE HOLDING ALL OUR PARTY'S BIOS RIGHT NOW.
LEAVE IT TO ME....
THE ISSUE IS HOW MUCH THAT GUY HAS...
THIS SHOULD BE QUITE A HIGH SUM...
THIS IS NOTHING MORE THAN MY ASSUMP-TION BUT
YOU WILL BE STANDING AT THAT TABLE.
AFTER TELLING US HOW MUCH BIOS YOU BET,
AND IF YOUR BET WAS HIGHER,

"THE SPEAR".

THE ITEM UNDER THE CLOTH IN FRONT OF YOU WILL BE

IF YOU LOSE, THEN IT WILL BE "THE SHIELD".

THEN, ABOUT THE RULES.

THE TIME FOR THESE ACTIONS WILL BE LIMITED TO

2 SECONDS.

THE FIGHT STARTS INSTANTLY AFTER REVEALING THE CLOTH.

THE "DEFENDER" HAS TO TAKE THE ATTACK, AND THE "ATTACKER" CAN ONLY DEAL ONE BLOW

OR CROUCHING, ARE FORBIDDEN ACTIONS.

STEPPING OUT OF THE LINES AT YOUR FEET "BEFORE RECEIVING THE ATTACK".

IF FOUND BY US.

LEAD TO A DISQUALI-FICATION.

WILL INS-TANTLY

PHYSICALLY BLOCKING THE OPPONENT.

STEALING THE OPPONENT'S ITEM.

KYADO-KURA...

ALSO, PLEASE DO NOT FORGET THAT "VIOLENCE IS FORBIDDEN" DURING THIS GAME.

YOUR VEST WILL BE "DEAD" ONCE THE MAINTENANCE TIME ENDS.

IF YOU LOSE, WE WILL GUARANTEE THAT

YOUR VESTS ARE HERE.

VIOLENCE REFERS TO ATTACKS OUTSIDE OF THE RULES..

THIS GAME COMES WITH VIOLENCE, BUT VIOLENCE DONE OUTSIDE THE RULES IS FORBIDDEN.

SO CONTRA-DICTING..

SUCH CONTRA-DICTION..

AH...

YOU'RE CONTRA-DICTING YOUR-SELF...

INDEED.

A GAME OF *CONTRA-DICTION.

A GAME OF GETTING ONE OF THESE.

THE SPEAR OR

THE SHIELD.

THE GAME...

LALO'S ALLY

FLOYD LEE

USOGUI'S ALLY

KAJI

*THE WORD "CONTRADICTION" IN JAPANESE IS 「矛盾」(SPEAR AND SHIELD).
THE CHAPTER IS MAKING REFERENCE TO A CHINESE STORY ABOUT A MERCHANT WHO CONTRADICTS HIMSELF BY CLAIMING HE HAS A SPEAR THAT CAN PIERCE ANYTHING AND A SHIELD THAT CAN BLOCK ANYTHING.

START S!

1ST GAME
1ST ROUND

WHA...

!!

THIS!?

WHAT'S

CLICK

STUN GUN!?

A...

GAME OF CONTRA-DICTION

CHAPTER 366

THE 3RD SPEAR

RULES

1. PLAYERS GO THROUGH 3 ROUNDS TO FINISH 1 GAME.
2. ONE PLAYER CHOOSES 1 "SPEAR" AMONG 3 DIFFERENT SPEARS AND THE OTHER CHOOSES 1 "SHIELD" AMONG 3 DIFFERENT SHIELDS IN EACH ROUND SPEARS AND SHIELDS CANNOT BE CHOSEN AGAIN WITHIN THE SAME GAME.
3. PLAYERS HAVE TO BET BIOS BEFORE THE START OF EVERY ROUND. THE ONE WHO BETS MORE WILL ATTACK(GET THE "SPEAR"), THE ONE WHO BETS LESS WILL DEFEND(GET THE "SHIELD").
4. WHEN BOTH SIDES BET THE SAME AMOUNT OF BIOS, THEY HAVE TO RE-BET BIOS.
5. THE TIME TO CHOOSE THE "SPEAR" AND "SHIELD" IS LIMITED TO 5 MINUTES. THE PLAYERS WILL SWITCH BETWEEN WHO CHOOSES THE SPEAR OR SHIELD AFTER EACH GAME.
6. THE TIME FOR THE "ATTACKER" TO ATTACK IS 2 SECONDS. BEFORE TAKING THE ATTACK, THE "DEFENDER" HAS TO STAY INSIDE THE WHITE LINE HE IS FORBIDDEN FROM CROUCHING OR OBSTRUCTING HIS OPPONENT, SUCH AS BY STEALING HIS WEAPON.
7. IF SOME "VIOLENT ACTION" IS FOUND BY KAKEROU, THE PLAYER WILL LOSE UNCONDITIONALLY.

S...

STUN GUN!?

I CAN'T BUT

!!

REACH HIM...

CLICK

HUH?

IT'S A TASER!?

BZZZ

IT...

BZZZ

BZZZ

...

IT'S OVER.

AH...

THE BIOS BET FOR EACH SIDE,

!

THE FIRST ROUND IS OVER.

WHA...

FLOYD LEE
10

KAJI
2000

AND FLOYD LEE-SAMA BET 10 BIOS.

KAJI-SAMA BET 2,000 BIOS,

10...
10 BIOS?

HE WANTED TO GET THE RIGHT TO ATTACK BECAUSE HE CHOSE A "WEAK SHIELD"... AFTER ALL, THIS SHIELD ISN'T STURDY AT ALL...

KAJI CHOSE THIS WOODEN SHIELD AND PAID A LOT OF BIOS. THIS "SHIELD" IS PROBABLY THE WEAKEST SHIELD.

I PAID 2,000 BIOS TO DO AN ATTACK THAT DID NO DAMAGE...

HE... HE GOT ME.

IT'S A WOODEN SHIELD...

KAJI PAID A LOT OF BIOS...

WILL WE USE THE SAME SHIELDS AND WEAPONS FROM THE 2ND GAME ON?
I HAVE A QUESTION.
NO PROBLEM !!
NOW, PLEASE CHOOSE A SPEAR AND SHIELD AMONG THE REMAINING 2 ITEMS. THEY'LL BE USED IN THE 2ND ROUND.

AND WE'LL PREPARE THIS TASER SO IT CAN BE USED AGAIN AND PUT IT BACK. NO NEED TO WORRY.
YOU'LL USE THE SAME ITEMS IN EVERY GAME.
YES...

2ND ROUND CHOOSING THE SHIELD

WHAT IF...
IS IT OKAY TO BRING SUCH A THING INTO THIS ISLAND?
A TASER...

THANKS FOR YOUR UNNECESSARY WORRY!!
WE'VE NEGOTIATED WITH THE DEVELOPERS.
...

THEY ARE ADDICTED TO EXPENSIVE DRUGS,

THE PEOPLE IN THE CANTEEN,

SO THEY CARRIED QUITE A SUM OF BIOS ON THEM.

KAJI...

WE STILL HAVE BIOS.

WE WERE LUCKY.

ALTHOUGH WE DIDN'T BRING MUCH BEFORE INVADING THE "FORTRESS",

KAJI'S REMAINING BIOS

-2000

33,500 BIOS

INCLUDING THE BIOS WE BROUGHT,

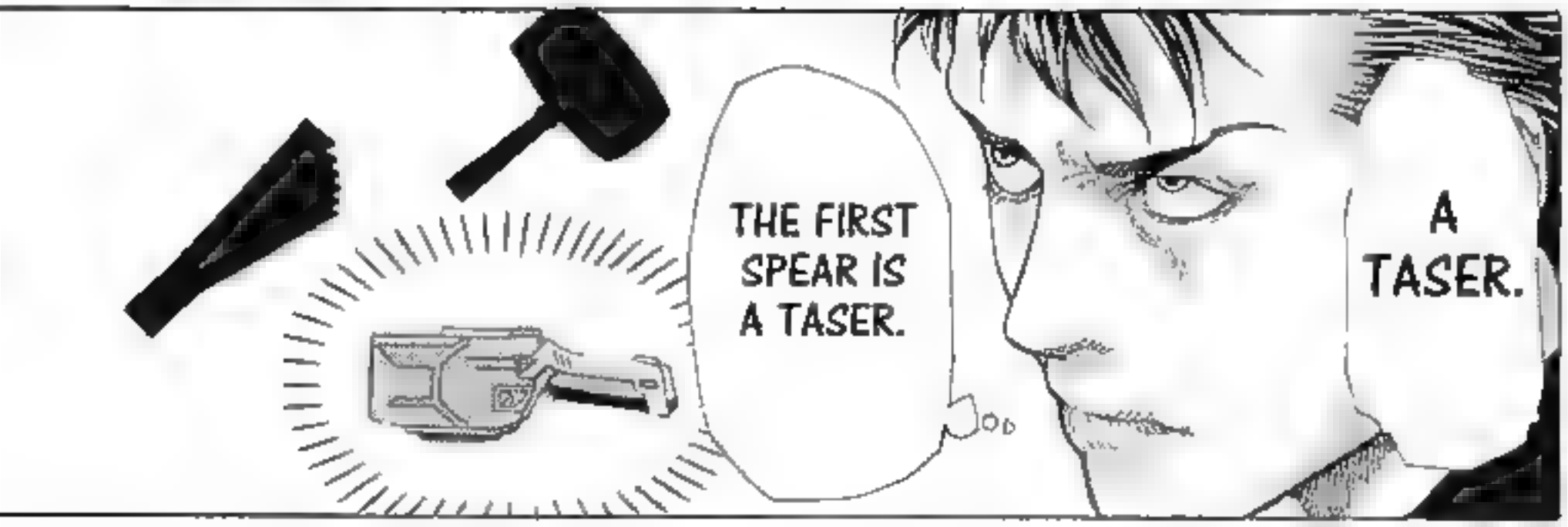
WE HAVE 35,500 BIOS IN TOTAL.

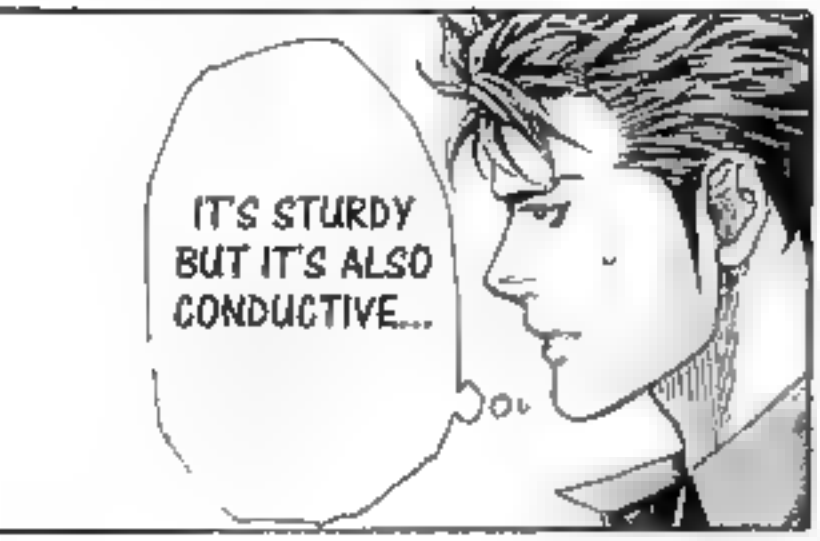
PROBABLY DIDN'T BRING MUCH.

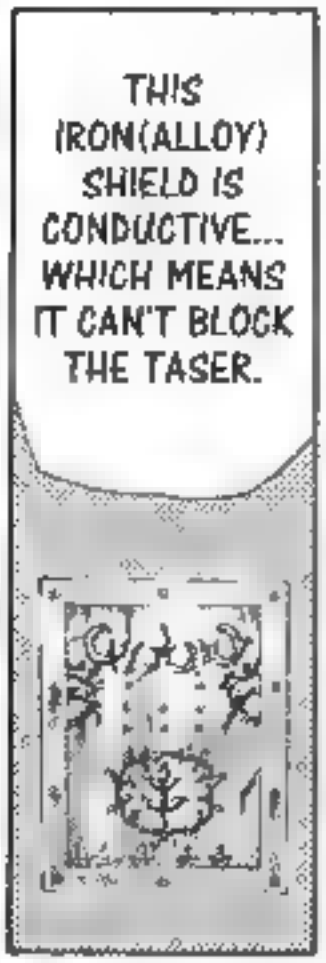
...

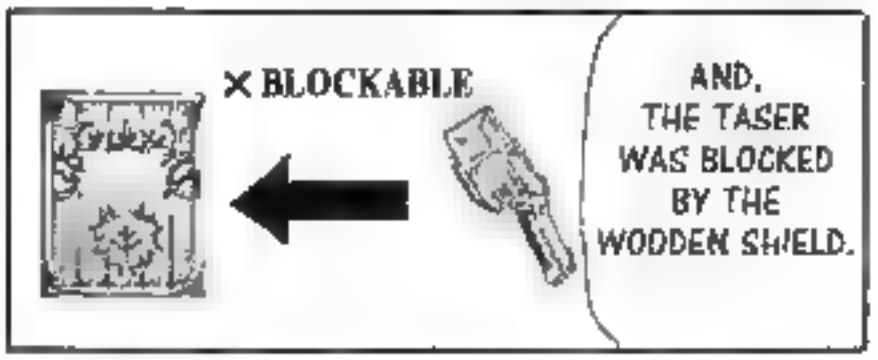
ON THE OTHER HAND, FLOYD, WHO JUST SPENT "10" BIOS,

嘘吐い㉟。

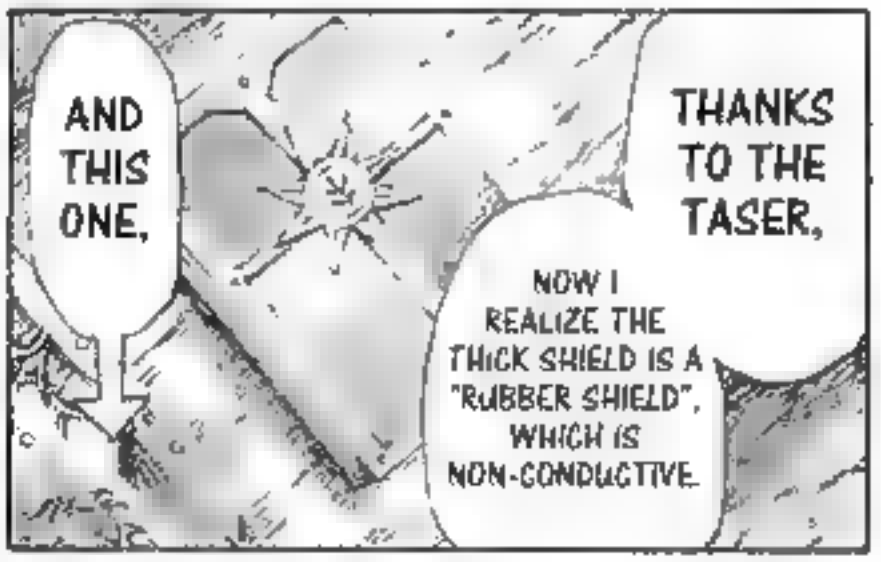

THE FIRST SPEAR IS A TASER.
A TASER.

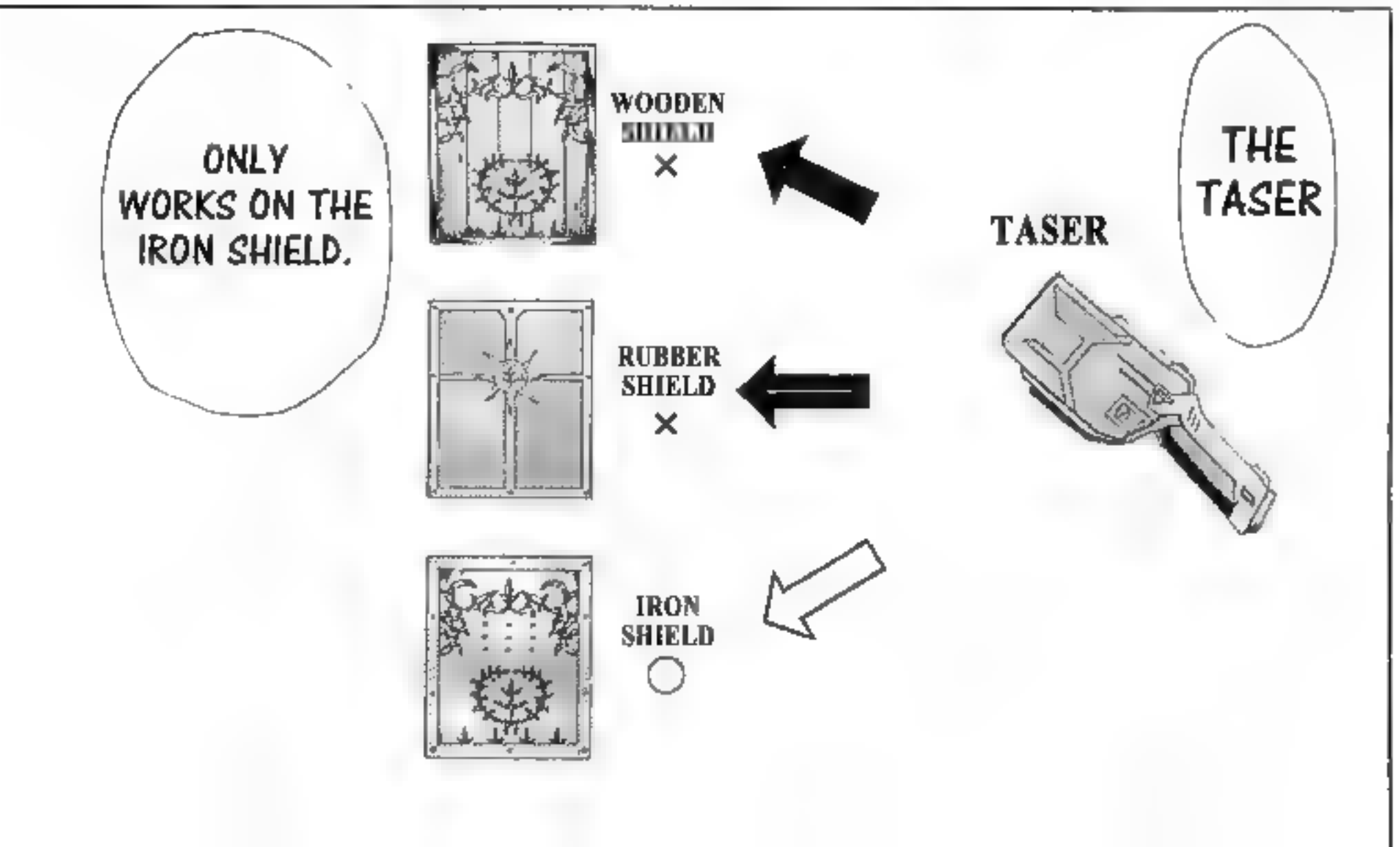

IT'S STURDY BUT IT'S ALSO CONDUCTIVE...


THIS (IRON(ALLOY) SHIELD IS CONDUCTIVE... WHICH MEANS IT CAN'T BLOCK THE TASER.


× BLOCKABLE
AND, THE TASER WAS BLOCKED BY THE WOODEN SHIELD.

THE IMAGE IS MOSTLY LIKE THIS.


AND THIS ONE,
THANKS TO THE TASER,
NOW I REALIZE THE THICK SHIELD IS A "RUBBER SHIELD", WHICH IS NON-CONDUCTIVE.


ONLY WORKS ON THE IRON SHIELD.
WOODEN SHIELD
×
RUBBER SHIELD
×
IRON SHIELD
○
TASER
THE TASER

BUT RATHER A HIGH CURRENT AND HIGH VOLTAGE ONE.

IT DOESN'T SEND A LOW CURRENT SHOCK THAT WON'T HURT THE VICTIM'S LIFE.

THAT TASER

IS "COMPLETELY DIFFERENT" FROM A NORMAL ONE.

THIS POWERFUL TASER PREPARED BY KAKERU IS...

FOR A "NORMAL TASER", IF IT'S USED ON A SHIELD BUT NOT DIRECTLY ON THE PERSON'S BODY, IT WON'T DO ANY DAMAGE.

NO MATTER WHICH ONE I CHOOSE, I DON'T WANT TO GET THE SHIELD RIGHT NOW.

THE REMAINING SHIELDS ARE RUBBER AND IRON!!

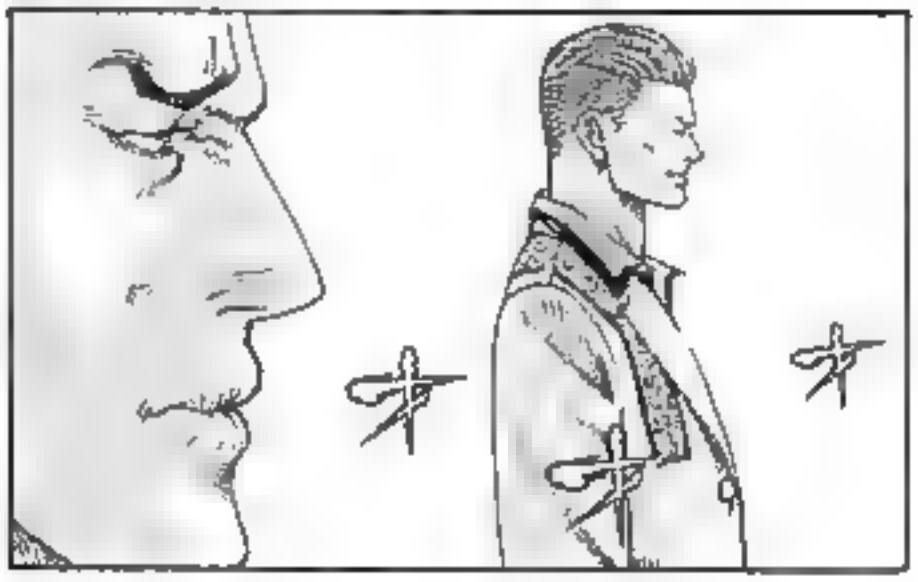
THEY BOTH LOOK STURDY, BUT...

.....

DANGEROUS.

LOOK AROUND

AHAHA



I WANT
TO WIN
THIS
TIME
TOO.

THE
GAME
THE
2ND
ROUND
STARTS!!

THERE'S NO TIME TO CHECK WHAT WEAPON HE HAS!

WHAT'S GONNA COME!?

KAJI USED

1,000 BIOS

IT... IT'LL TAKE ALL MY TIME TO PICK UP THE SHIELD!

I... I LOST!!

WHAT

IS IT...?

HERE IT...

COMES...

IT...

HUUUU URRRR RRRTSII

AH...

...

IT...

FLOYD LEE USED

3,000 BIOS

KU...

THAT'S IT

...

A LAYMAN CAN'T USE IT WELL.

EVEN THOUGH YOU'RE USING MY JAPANESE SWORD, "HAGISHIRI"... BE CAREFUL USING IT

IT'S OVER.

IT'S FINE.

AH...

THIS IS RIDICU-LOUS!

WHAT IS THIS, KAJI!?

THE WOUND... ISN'T DEEP.

YOU... YOU'RE BLEED-ING, KAJI!

IT... IT'S A REAL SWORD!!

I... I WAS WRONG.

WHAT ARE YOU SAYING!? THIS GAME IS TOO DANGER-OUS!!

IT'S OBVIOUS.

A PLAYER SHOULD USE IT TO PARALYZE THE OPPONENT

AND THEN IN THE NEXT ROUND,

THAT'S THE COMBO.

DEFEAT THE OPPONENT WHO CAN'T MOVE

AND... NOW I UNDER-STAND.

THIS IS HOW THE TASER SHOULD BE USED...

THAT GUY IS PARALYZED!

THAT'S WHY THE SLASH JUST NOW WAS WEAK.

THE WOODEN SHIELD DIDN'T COMPLETELY BLOCK THE TASER.

SO IT'LL BE DANGEROUS IF HE CAN'T GET THE "SPEAR".

HE WON'T BE ABLE TO PICK UP THE "SHIELD" WHEN HE'S PARALYZED,

THIS... THIS GAME...

BECAUSE HE DIDN'T WANT TO GET THE "SHIELD",

FLOYD LEE USED

3,000 BIOS

THAT'S WHY HE SPENT A LOT OF BIOS THIS TIME... OF COURSE,

THIS IS NOT A TRIANGLE-RELATION GAME LIKE ROCK-PAPER-SCISSORS.

IT LOOKS SIMPLE BUT ACTUALLY IT ISN'T.

IS REALLY SOMETHING.

CALM DOWN AND THINK!!

WOODEN

RUBBER

IRON

TASER

THE TASER WORKS A LITTLE BIT ON THE WOODEN SHIELD.

IT WORKS MOST EFFECTIVELY ON THE IRON SHIELD.

FIRST, I NEED TO FIX MY ASSUMPTION.

THERE SHOULD BE A PAIR FOR ALL ITEMS...

SPEARS AND SHIELDS...

AND, THE RUBBER SHIELD CAN BLOCK THE JAPANESE SWORD TO A CERTAIN DEGREE.

THE 3RD "SPEAR" SHOULD BE A WEAK WEAPON THAT EVEN THE WOODEN SHIELD CAN BLOCK...

MORE THAN ANYTHING,

THERE SHOULD BE A "WEAPON" THAT THE WOODEN SHIELD CAN BLOCK.

IRON BLOCKABLE JAPANESE SWORD

RUBBER BLOCKABLE TASER

THE LAST SHIELD I HAVE IS THE IRON SHIELD, AND THE WEAPON THAT COUNTERS IT, THE TASER, HAS BEEN USED.

NOW, THE IRON SHIELD SHOULD BE THE STRONGEST.

THERE ARE ALREADY TWO STRONG WEAPONS... THEN, THE LAST ONE...

IRON AND JAPANESE SWORD, RUBBER AND ELECTRIC SHOCK... WHICH MEANS,

EACH SHIELD SHOULD HAVE A WELL MATCHED SPEAR.

I SHOULD RETAIN MY BIOS... I BETTER BET I BIOS AND GET THE "SHIELD" THIS TIME.

FLOYD LEE
10
3000

KAJI
2000
1000

SINCE I DON'T KNOW HOW MUCH BIOS HE HAS,

3RD ROUND

THE GAME

STARTS!

AFTER THIS ROUND, ALL THE "SPEARS AND SHIELDS" WILL BE REVEALED.

THE 2ND GAME...

THE REAL SHOW STARTS FROM THE 2ND GAME ON.

THE FUTURE

IS UNKNOWN.

GU... IT'S HEAVY...

REFERS TO THINGS THAT NO ONE KNOWS YET.

UNKNOWN

PREDICTING THE UNKNOWN

IS CALLED A GAMBLE.

BY THE WAY.

NORINCO MODEL 213

A CHINESE PISTOL THAT WAS MODELED AFTER THE SERVICE PISTOL USED BY THE SOVIET MILITARY, THE TT-30.

THE 3RD SPEAR

GUN

EVEN IF SOMEONE CAN PREDICT THE UNKNOWN.

IT'S STILL HARD TO PREDICT

WHAT ONE WILL BECOME WHEN THE UNKNOWN ARRIVES.

WHO SAY THOSE KINDS OF WORDS.

THERE ARE PEOPLE

"I CAN UNDER-STAND YOUR PAIN."

NO ONE KNOWS.

IN THIS WORLD.

NO TWO PAINS ARE THE SAME

CHAPTER 367

NO TWO HEARTS ARE THE SAME

BEING RIDICULED,

BEING ABUSED,

DESPAIR,

NONE OF THESE FEELINGS CAN BE SHARED WITH OTHERS.

PAIN,

GETTING BEAT UP

I DON'T

EXPECT PEOPLE TO UNDERSTAND ME.

OPEN

SO STOP BEING SO SELFISH. YOU ONLY NEED TO TELL THEM "I CUT IT WHILE I WAS PLAYING WITH A KNIFE" IN THE HOSPITAL, THEN EVERYTHING WILL BE FINE.

I'VE TOLD YOU EVEN A FINGER OR TOE WILL DO,

WE FINALLY GOT YOU INSUR-ANCE.

DON'T RUN, TAKA-KUN.

BUT INSTEAD TRYING TO HARM YOU,

IF SHE'S NOT STAND-ING ON YOUR SIDE,

WHAT WILL YOU BECOME?

WOULDN'T IT BE BETTER TO LET HIM BE HIT BY A CAR?

IN THIS WORLD,

THE ONLY SAFE HAVEN YOU HAVE

THE ONLY LOVE YOU CAN RELY ON,

THAT CREA-TURE

WILL TRY TO BE AS CUTE AS POSSIBLE.

I CAN SCAM SOMEBODY PERFECTLY BY BEING HIT BY A CAR.

A HUMAN BECOME?

WHAT WILL

I...

NO ONE

WHILE LOOKING AT HIM ACTING RIDICULOUS IN FRONT OF PEOPLE,

NO ONE KNOWS HOW HE FEELS ABOUT THIS HABIT ENGRAVED ON HIM

AND, HE LEARNED LOTS OF THINGS.

THAT HE'D HAVE NEVER LEARNED IN HIS NORMAL LIFE.

FROM THE UNKNOWN WHO HAS CHANGED HIM.

HE'S JUST EXPECTING TO GET SOMETHING

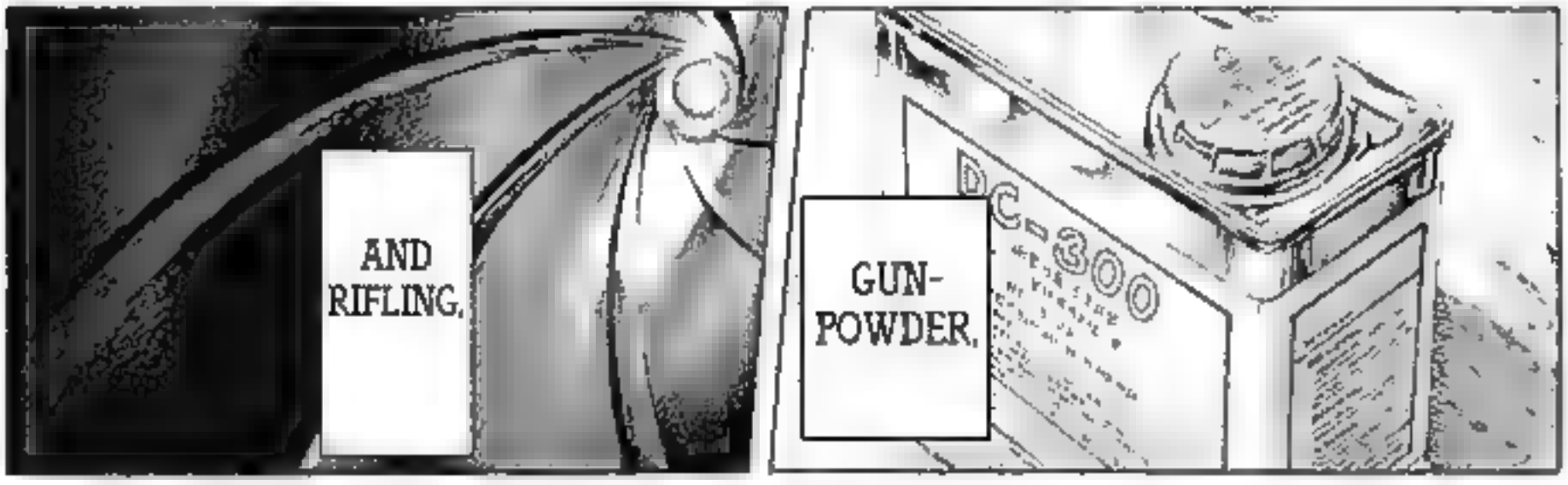
IF A PERSON IS SHOT BY A GUN,

WHAT WILL

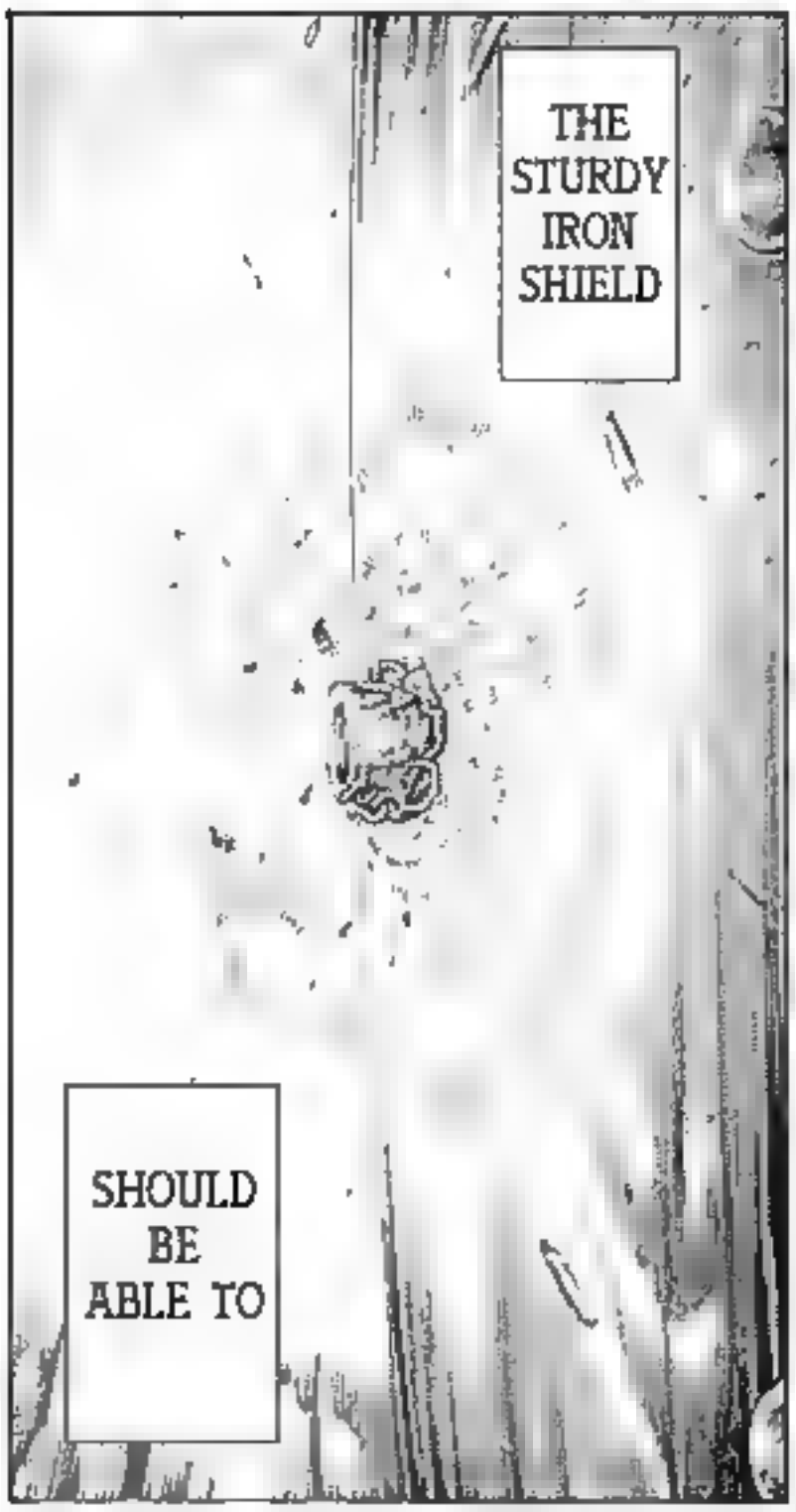
HAPPEN?

NORINCO MODEL 213

A CHINESE PISTOL THAT WAS MODELED AFTER THE SERVICE PISTOL USED BY THE SOVIET MILITARY, THE TT-30.


AND RIFLING.
GUN-POWDER.
DC-300

CAN COMPETE WITH
ISN'T SOMETHING THE IMITATION USED IN MOVIES OR TV SHOWS
THE POWER OF THE EXPLOSION CAUSED BY THESE TWO.


THE STURDY IRON SHIELD
SHOULD BE ABLE TO

THE MERCI-LESS
EXPLOSION SOUNDED.

WITH-
STAND
ALL THE
IMPACT.

FAR EXCEEDED
THE POWER OF
THE HANDS
HOLDING
THE SHIELD

THE
FORCE

A
RUNAWAY
HORSE.

IT
WAS
LIKE

KAJI!!

...

KA...

THAT'S IT!!

THE 1ST GAME OF THE "GAME OF CONTRA-DICTION" IS OVER!

WHAT JUST HAPPENED?

WHA...

WHAT?

!

2nd

1

KAJI-SAMA BET 1 BIOS.

KAJ!

A...

A PISTOL!!

BUT... THE RESULT IS FINE. I MADE FLOYD SPEND A LOT.

NOW, WE'LL REVEAL THE AMOUNT OF BIOS THAT BOTH SIDES BET.

I DEFINITELY WOULDN'T WANT TO GET HIT BY THIS...

2

FLOYD LEE-SAMA BET

2 BIOS.

OF COURSE HE'D SUSPECT THAT THERE'S AN IRON SHIELD AMONG THE "SHIELDS"!

WHEN THERE'S A TASER AMONG THE "SPEARS".

I WOULD TAKE THE SHIELD ON PURPOSE.

IN THAT CASE, I'D RELY ON THE IRON SHIELD LAST.

WHICH MEANS I'D SPEND THE LOWEST AMOUNT OF BIOS.

SH...

SHIT!

...HUH!?

2

ONLY 1 BIOS MORE ...?

WHY DIDN'T HE SPEND A LOT TO GET THE GUN?

THE LAST WEAPON... WAS A GUN...

HE'S... VERY GOOD.

HE COMPLETELY READ MY THOUGHTS.

STOP PLAYING THIS...

NOW, LET'S START THE 2ND GAME.

KU!

KAJI!!

!...

ANXIETY.

MAKE MISTAKES.

ATH-LETES

UNEASINESS.

IN ORDER TO BLOCK A SERIES OF NEGATIVE EMOTIONS FROM HAPPENING

THERE'S A "SWITCH IN THEIR HEART TO CHANGE THEIR MENTAL STATE"... HE JUST DID THE SAME THING.

HE PRESSED THE SWITCH

UN-INTENTION-ALLY

KEEP IT TOGETHER.

ONLY THINK ABOUT HOW TO WIN.

WIN.

YOU SHOULD HAVE FIGURED IT OUT IF YOU HAVE THOUGHT ABOUT IT

CLICK

ANYTHING OTHER THAN THAT DOESN'T MATTER.

KAJI

CHOOSES THE SPEARS

THE 2ND GAME STARTS.

FLOYD LEE

CHOOSES THE SHIELDS

WHICH ONE

DO I CHOOSE?

I CAN'T CONVINCE HIM TO QUIT.

DAMN IT...

KAJI IS TOTALLY IN THIS.

IT'S KAJI'S TURN TO CHOOSE THE "SPEAR" ..

THIS... THIS TIME,

"THE PERFECT TIME TO SPEND BIOS" IS THE KEY TO THIS GAME.

WE DON'T KNOW HOW MUCH BIOS HE HAS YET."

WHEN I CHOOSE ONE OF THESE LETHAL "SPEARS",

THE GUN AND THE JAPANESE SWORD,

"THE ONE WHO CHOOSES THE SPEAR" IS MORE ADVANTAGEOUS IN THIS GAME

I WILL KNOW THAT IT'S THE BEST TIME TO SPEND BIOS.

BUT, YOU CAN'T LET YOUR GUARD DOWN.

WHAT'S THE BEST ONE TO CHOOSE?

TASER

JAPANESE SWORD

GUN

THE ONE WHO LOSES AND GETS PARALYZED WILL BE PUSHED TO THE CORNER INSTANTLY.

IRON VS TASER

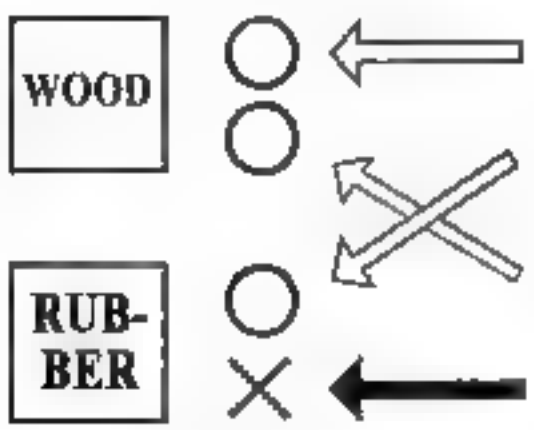
IF HE CHOOSES THE IRON SHIELD,

FOR EXAMPLE, WHAT WILL HAPPEN

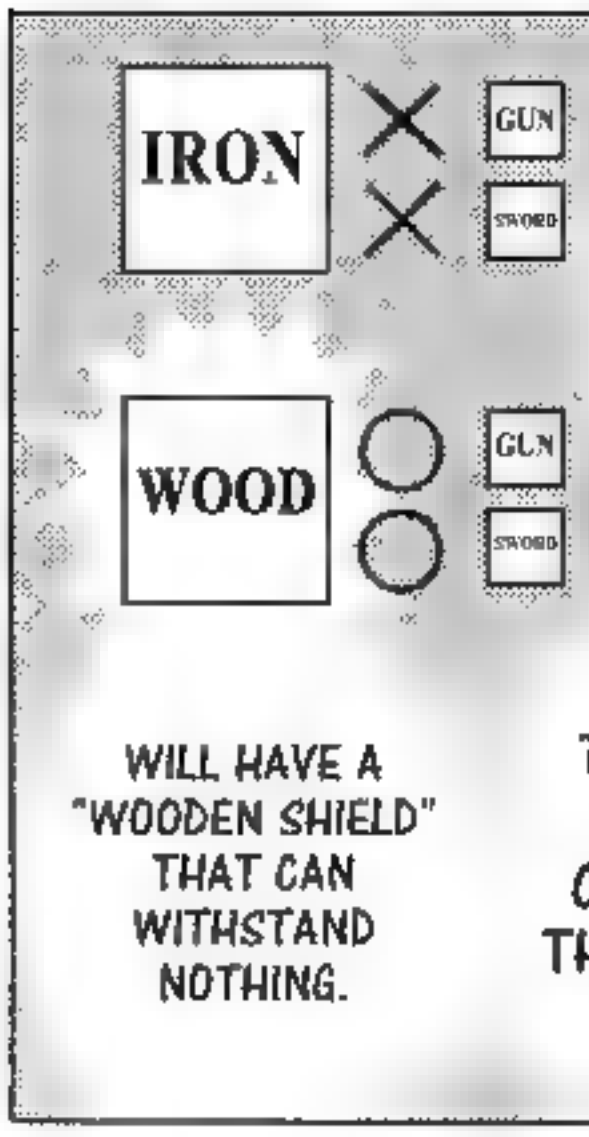
IF I CHOOSE THE TASER IN THE 1ST ROUND?

SO HE'LL LOSE IF HE CAN'T GET THE "SPEAR" AFTERWARDS.

IRON VS TASER



AND, NOT ONLY WILL HE NOT HAVE THE STRENGTH TO PICK UP THE SHIELD, THE 2 REMAINING "SPEARS" WILL MOSTLY WORK ON THE REMAINING "SHIELDS",



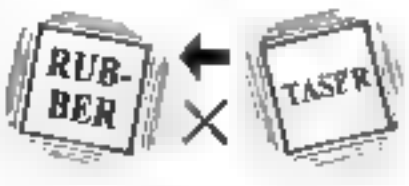
NO... EVEN THOUGH THE NUMBERS OF THE "O"S AND "X"S ARE THE SAME,

WILL HAVE A "WOODEN SHIELD" THAT CAN WITHSTAND NOTHING.

THE ONE WHO CHOOSES THE SHIELD

EVEN IF ONE LOSES, HE WON'T GET HURT.

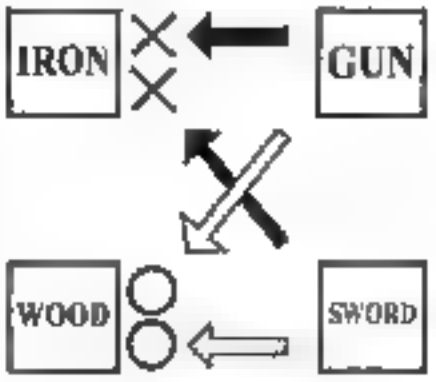
RUBBER VS TASER



BUT WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF HE DOESN'T PICK THE IRON SHIELD BUT THE RUBBER SHIELD?

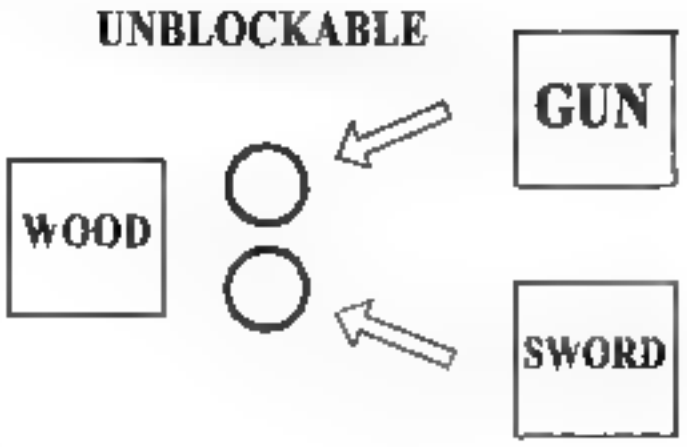
RUBBER VS TASER

AFTERWARDS, THE "SHIELDS" AND THE "SPEARS" ARE EQUALLY MATCHED.



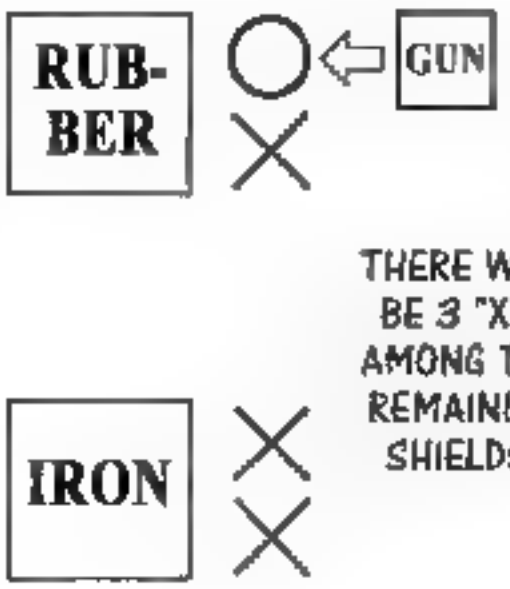
IN THAT CASE, FLOYD WILL HAVE THE INITIATIVE...

BE TAKEN BY ME IN THE 2ND OR THE 3RD ROUND, SO HE'LL KNOW WHEN HE SHOULD SPEND BIOS...



FLOYD WILL TRY TO HAVE THE WEAKEST SHIELD

THE SPEARS WILL BE BLOCKED IN MOST OF THE CASES.

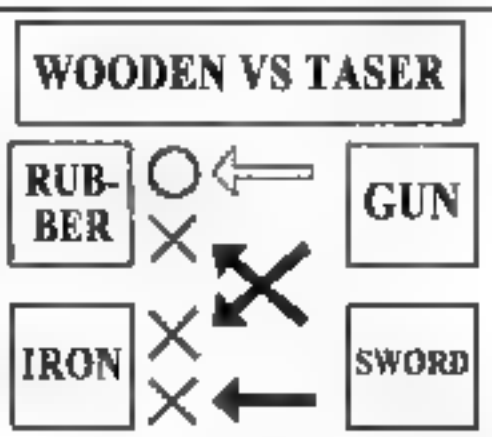


THERE WILL BE 3 "X"S AMONG THE REMAINING SHIELDS.

EVEN IF ONE LOSES, HE'LL ONLY BE PARALYZED A LITTLE BIT.

THE LAST ONE IS THE WOODEN VS TASER

FLOYD WILL HAVE THE INITIATIVE.



IN THAT CASE,

WOOD VS TASER

LOST, PARALYZED A LITTLE BIT.

AFTERWARDS, IT'S MORE ADVANTAGEOUS TO THE ONE WHO CHOOSES THE SHIELD.

RUB-BER VS TASER

LOST, FINE.

AFTERWARDS, IT'S MORE ADVANTAGEOUS TO THE ONE WHO CHOOSES THE SHIELD.

IRON VS TASER

LOST, PARALYZED STRONGLY.

AFTERWARDS, IT'S MORE ADVANTAGEOUS TO THE ONE WHO WINS IN THE 1ST ROUND.

WHICH MEANS, IF I CHOOSE THE TASER,

ONLY WHEN FLOYD CHOOSES THE "IRON SHIELD" AND I WIN THE 1ST ROUND WILL I HAVE THE ADVANTAGE.

IT DOESN'T FEEL RIGHT TO CHOOSE THE TASER IN THE 1ST ROUND...

I SEE...

I'VE FIGURED OUT THE TRICK TO CHOOSING THE "SPEARS" AND THE "SHIELDS"...

THE WHOLE GAME WILL BE RUINED...

SWALLOW

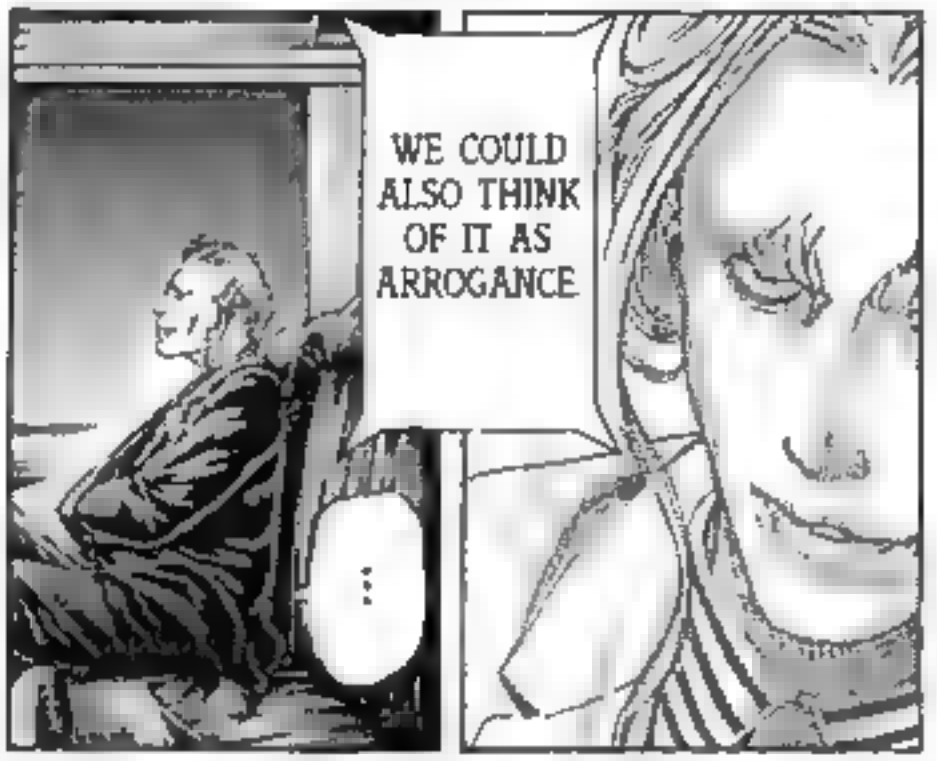
BE... BE CAREFUL, KAJI... IF YOU MISS EVEN ONCE...

I THINK THAT GUY WILL CHOOSE THE JAPANESE SWORD.

GIVE AND TAKE

CHAPTER-368
HARD TO EXPOSE, HARD TO PROTECT

YOUR CRITERIA IN JUDGING VALUE HAVE BEEN WITHIN MY OWN WILL, BUT...
EVERYTHING I GIVE TO YOU AND EVERYTHING YOU DELIVER TO ME ARE ALWAYS OF EQUAL VALUE.



THIS IS QUITE A SUDDEN REQUEST.

BUT IT SEEMS THIS CASE WON'T BE LACKING OF THOSE CONSPIRACIES YOU LIKE SO MUCH. SO THIS COULD BE A GOOD OCCASION, RIGHT?

HUMPH.

INDEED... THIS IS QUITE THE PERFECT TIMING.

WHILE ATCHING THIS SAGE, OU

KAKEROU REFEREE!!

I NEVER THOUGHT YOU WOULD APPEAR IN FRONT OF ME LIKE THAT.

IS IT OK NOT LISTENING TO THE MESSAGE?

I ALREADY UNDERSTAND WHAT HE WANTS... IT'S MORE LIKE I EXPOSED HIS PLANS.

FOR INSTANCE, THE COMPANIONS HE'S CALLING ARE NOT ONLY IDEAL'S MEMBERS,

SAYING THINGS LIKE "IT HAS TO BE YOU!" BUT HE'S ACTUALLY JUST LACKING MANPOWER, LOOKING FOR ANYONE WHO'S IN JAPAN RIGHT NOW.

BUT ALSO PEOPLE LIKE ME WHO ARE PARTLY IN IDEAL MAINLY FOR PURSUING THEIR OWN INTERESTS, OR EVEN PEOPLE WHO AREN'T IN IDEAL.

I'M SURE HE ALSO WANTS TO AVOID REVEALING HIS IDENTITY TOO.

MOREOVER, THIS GUY...

IS ONLY TRYING TO GET THE SWEET STUFF RIGHT NOW.

HE'LL BE ABLE TO DOMINATE THE DIAMOND MARKET.

IF HE GETS THAT,

A PROOF OF AN AMAZING SCANDAL,

FOR A LONG TIME, HE HAS ALWAYS BEEN WANTING THE "DIAMOND MARKET" CONSPIRACY STORY THAT I HAVE.

MEANING?

JUST LIKE ALL THE PLANS HE ALWAYS THINKS ABOUT.

SUCH A CONVENIENT MEAL WHERE HE CAN EAT ALL HIS FAVORITES.

TO GET THE SWEET FRUIT THAT HE WANTS.

FURTHER-MORE, USING ME AS HIS COMPANION,

AND GRASPING THE DESIRED STORY

ENJOYING A SWEET APPETIZER BY MAKING ME OWE HIM THROUGH SAVING ME,

HOWEVER AFTER I TRANS FERRED YOU, WHO'S BEING CHASED TO JAPAN.

TO THINK THAT YOU WOULD ACTUALLY WASTE ALL THOSE EFFORTS IN A FEW DAYS. THAT IS SO YOU

YOU...

I'LL TAKE IT, OF COURSE...

I CAN'T RISK HAVING HIM DISAPPEAR AFTER ALL... FOR ME, PEOPLE LIKE HIM ARE THE "GREATEST CONSPIRACIES I WANT TO EXPOSE".

I'M BEING THANKFUL HERE! THANKFUL TO YOU WHO JUST APPEARED WITH SUCH AN INTERESTING STORY!!

WHY ARE YOU TELLING ME THIS? YOU KNOW WE ACTUALLY HAVE ISSUES WITH HIM, RIGHT?

WHAT WILL YOU DO ABOUT HIS INVI-TATION?

SO...

TO BECOME MY ALLY.

HAVE NO OTHER CHOICE THAN

WE ARE PURSUING THE SILVER LIMOUSINE RIGHT NOW.

CAR NO.1 REPORT-ING.

ACCORDING TO INTELLIGENCE, HE IS AN EXTREMELY WANTED CRIMINAL BEING REQUESTED BY THE USA. HIS NAME IS...

THEY ARE QUITE CONFUSED TOO. WAIT FOR THE ORDERS.

HOW LONG ARE WE GOING TO KEEP PURSUING THAT CAR? WHAT'S UP WITH THAT LIMOUSINE...?

FEARED BY MANY, THE ONES WHO HAD THEIR SECRETS EXPOSED BY HIM ALL WENT PALE(*FLOYD), SCREAMING AND FALLING INTO DESPAIR.

WHILE BEING CHASED BY THE CIA, HE'S NOW HIDING IN JAPAN

A WHISTLE-BLOWER OF ALL

FLOYD LEE.

FOR HIM, THE CONSPIRACIES HE EXPOSES ARE NOTHING MORE THAN A COMMODITY TO BE SOLD TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER.

INFORMATION HIDDEN BY GOVERNMENTS AND AGENCIES.

*"FLOYD" IN JAPANESE MEANS PALE.

IT WAS FLOYD WHO SOLD THAT INTELLIGENCE TO THE RIVAL PARTY.

GOT HIS LIES EXPOSED AND WENT DOWNHILL.

THE ITALIAN PRESIDENT, WHO THREW HIS RIVAL OPPONENT IN JAIL UNDER FALSE ACCUSATIONS.

THE DOWNFALL OF THE ITALIAN PRESIDENT:

THAT CONSPIRACY BECAME WELL KNOWN IN THE COUNTRY LATER ON.

BY A BIG PHARMA-CEUTICAL COMPANY LOOKING TO SELL THE ANTIDOTE.

THE FAKE NEWS ABOUT THE SPREADING NEW VIRUS.

EVERY CONSPI-RACY IS BOUND TO BE EXPOSED BY FLOYD LEE.

IT IS SAID THAT THE FAKE TERRORIST ATTACK AT THE LOS ANGELES MARATHON.

THE SCANDAL INVOLVING THE PRESIDENT OF BBC.

THE SCANDAL INVOLVING THE CIA'S VICE PRESI-DENT.

AFTER ALL, IT'S NOTHING MORE THAN THE KARMA MADE BY HUMANS.

HARD TO PROTECT...

AND ALSO

A CONS-PIRACY IS HARD TO EXPOSE...

BY THE WAY WE SHOULD FIRST TAKE CARE OF THOSE PATROL CARS BEHIND US BEFORE WE GO TO THE DESTINATION...

THAT'S IT...

!

...THE SAME AS UNDER-STANDING PEOPLE AND KNOWING THEM.

EXPOSING CONS-PIRACIES IS EXACTLY...

EXPOSING PEOPLE'S TRUE NATURE IS THE MOST SATISFYING THING FOR ME.

SINCE YOU'VE ACCEPTED THE INVITATION ...

IT'S MY TURN NOW...

THEN LOOK AT PEOPLE'S KARMA CARE-FULLY

YOU'LL REALIZE THAT WAY OF THINKING OF YOURS

IS NOTHING MORE THAN A DELUSION.

YOU SAID IT'S NOTHING MORE THAN THE KARMA MADE BY HUMANS, HUH...

INTER-ESTING

THE 1ST ROUND ENDS.

THAT'S IT.

...AS I THOUGHT.

THEN, I WILL NOW ANNOUNCE THE BIOS BET BY EACH PLAYER IN THIS ROUND.

WAS BLOCKED BY THE IRON SHIELD.

THE JAPANESE SWORD

FLOYD LEE-SAMA, 1 BIOS.

1

10

KAJI-SAMA, 10 BIOS.

.....

.....

AREN'T YOU SCARED!? IT'S A REAL JAPANESE SWORD! YOU WOULD HAVE BEEN CUT IN HALF WITH ONLY A SMALL MISTAKE!

ON THE OTHER HAND, KAJI CHOSE THE JAPANESE SWORD AND STILL BET THE SMALL AMOUNT OF 10 BIOS... WHY ARE THESE GUYS ABLE TO DO THAT?

FLOYD PRESERVED HIS BIOS BY BETTING 1 BIOS AND GOT THE IRON SHIELD,

WOOD ○

RUB-BER ×

IRON ×

SWORD

IT IS BLOCKED BY BOTH THE RUBBER AND IRON SHIELDS, IT'S ONLY STRONG AGAINST THE WOODEN ONE.

IN THE 1ST ROUND, THE JAPANESE SWORD IS THE MOST INDECISIVE "SPEAR".

IT DOES LOOK STRONG AT FIRST GLANCE, BUT TRUTH IS, IT CAN ALSO BE SAID TO BE THE WEAKEST "SPEAR" IN THIS LOT.

THE JAPANESE SWORD...

...

THE REMAINING SPEARS AND SHIELDS ARE

THE TASER AND THE GUN,

2ND ROUND, KAJI TO CHOOSE THE "SPEAR"

FROM NOW ON, THE ONE WHO HAS THE INITIATIVE...

2ND ROUND, FLOYD LEE TO CHOOSE THE "SHIELD"

THE RUBBER SHIELD AND THE WOODEN SHIELD.

NOW BECAME A "JOKER" ABLE TO FULLY PIERCE ANY OF THE REMAINING SHIELDS.

DESTROYS

IS DEFINITIVELY "KAJI".

THE GUN

NO SHIELD ABLE TO BLOCK THIS "SPEAR".

THERE IS NOW

BY BETTING ALL YOUR BIOS.

IT'S BASICALLY A FIGHT TO TAKE THE "GUN"

MEANING,

KAJI WILL WIN.

IF FLOYD GUESSES IT WRONG,

2ND ROUND

3RD ROUND

AND KAJI HAS THE RIGHT TO DECIDE WHETHER THIS FIGHT WILL HAPPEN IN THE 2ND OR THE 3RD ROUND.

NICE FOCUS YOU HAVE THERE.

YEAH... JUST LIKE THAT TIME...

YOU BECOME QUITE SCARY WHEN YOU'RE LIKE THAT.

FLOYD.

THE ONE WHO GOT PUSHED INTO THE CORNER IS

...

THE KY DECLAR-ATION.

NOT LONG AFTER I WAS

TRANSFERRED TO JAPAN BY LALO WHILE I WAS BEING PURSUED BY THE CIA.

EXPOSING THE POWERFUL'S SECRETS

AND MAKING THEM SHIVER IN FEAR. SUCH A CRAZY TV PROGRAM

I COULDN'T HELP BUT WANT TO EXPOSE THE CONSPIRACY BEHIND THAT PROGRAM

I WAS TREMBLING WITH EXCITEMENT.

BECAUSE MY NATURE IS ALL ABOUT EXPOSING FROM HEAD TO TOE THE "THINGS" HIDDEN.

WELL, THANKS TO THAT, MY PRESENCE HERE WAS MADE KNOWN, AND I HAD TO GO ON THE RUN AGAIN

MY INSTINCT WAS THROBBING WITH PAIN.

AND THE EXISTENCE OF KAKEROU.

I LEARNED ABOUT YOU, THE PANELIST WHO WAS CONTROLLING THE WHOLE PLACE...

WELL...

WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO SAY?

HUH?

THAT IS THE ONLY REASON I KNEW SO MUCH ABOUT YOU.

THAT'S NOT THE KIND OF THING I'M INTERESTED IN, YOU SEE.

I JUST WENT WITH THE MOOD, AND REPLIED TO THAT TAUNT OF YOURS, BUT IT'S NOT LIKE I HAD BAD INTENTIONS.

I WANT YOU TO FORGET THE THINGS I BLURTED OUT ABOUT YOUR PARENTS BEFORE.

I HAVE CHOSEN A SHIELD.

REFEREE!!

BUT, A FIGHT IS A FIGHT... LET'S SEE IT TO THE END.

2ND GAME

2ND ROUND

TO SPEND BIOS HERE...

OR TO NOT SPEND...

YOU BETTER THINK THO ROUGHLY ABOUT IT.

THE WOODEN SHIELD...

SO...

HOW MUCH BIOS WILL YOU BET...?

THE GAME

STARTS!!

IS THE ONE WHO BET THE HIGHEST SUM UNTIL NOW.

THE ONE WHO GRASPED THE RIGHT TO ATTACK

FLOYD LEE!!

KAJI SPENT WAS_

THE AMOUNT OF BIOS

1 BIOS.

THE AMOUNT OF BIOS KAJI SPENT WAS_

TASER!!

2ND GAME,
2ND ROUND

TASER

CHAPTER №9

THE GAMBLER WHO DIDN'T PULL

VS

WOODEN
SHIELD

CHAMP-SAN..
IF ANYTHING
HAPPENS TO M
I'LL LEAVE

PLEASE TELL RYUUSEI TO GO LOOK FOR "ORDEKA".

ALSO,

HUH?

HUH? WHAT ARE YOU SAYING SUDDENLY?

ALL TAKEN BY FLOYD LEE.

I SUSPECT HIS BIOS WERE

ORDEKA WAS TOTALLY BROKE.

I DID EXACTLY AS YOU SAID, BUT WHY?

WILL BE AN IMPORTANT ITEM WHICH YOU'LL GET BY PUTTING YOUR LIFE ON THE BALANCE LATER

NOW, PLEASE CHOOSE ONE OF THEM.

HOWEVER, BY KNOWING HOW MUCH BIOS ORDEKA HAD ON HIM, THERE MIGHT BE A WAY TO KNOW HOW MUCH BIOS FLOYD LEE HAS IN TOTAL RIGHT NOW

HUH? BUT, KAJI.

!

BEFORE THAT, REFEREE KADOKURA SAID:

YOU TOLD ME TO DO THAT EVEN BEFORE THE GAME'S RULES ON BIOS WERE EXPLAINED

AND IF I WAS RIGHT, THEN THE TOTAL SUM OF BIOS IN THE HANDS OF FLOYD LEE WOULD BE CRUCIAL INFORMATION FOR WINNING THIS GAME.

WAS MOST LIKELY

BASED ON SOME RULE LIKE BETTING BIOS....

INDEED

BUT, THAT WAS..

BUT, IT TURNS OUT IT WAS CORRECT AFTER ALL.

NOTHING MORE THAN AN ASSUMP TION RIGHT?

TO WIN THIS GAME.

MOREOVER, THERE WAS ACTUALLY NO REASON FOR ME TO NOT BET ON IT EITHER I'LL DO WHATEVER IT TAKES

BIOS,

LIFE,

BALANCE,

COMPARE.

CHAMP SAN,

MEANING, THE WAY OF DECIDING WHO PICKS UP THE SPEAR AND WHO PICKS UP THE SHIELD...

THOSE WORDS FROM KADOKURA-SAN WERE ACTUALLY THE HINTS OF THE RULES

I COULD SAY YOU MADE THE BEST USAGE OF YOUR LIMITED ASSETS,

EVEN IF FLOYD CHOOSES THE WOODEN SHIELD, YOU'LL ONLY BE SHOCKED A BIT AT WORST BY THE TASER.

AND PLANNED A WISE STRATEGY MADE WITH A CALM MIND.

I DO NOT NEED SUCH UN WARRANTED KINDNESS

KADOKURA SAN,

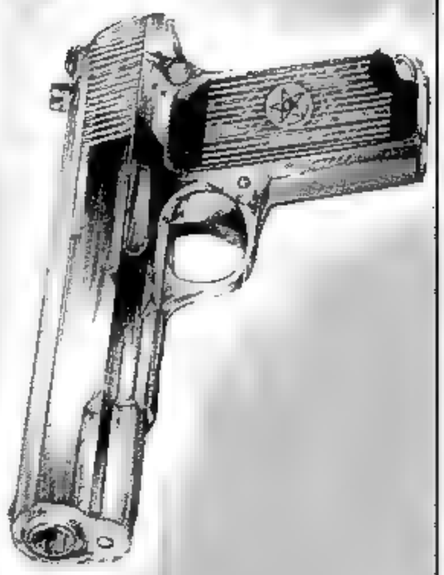
I AM NOW...

THE REAL DEAL WILL COME NEXT.

IF FLOYD LEE ENDS UP FEARING THE GUN AND BETTING A LOT OF BIOS,

IN A BIOS FIGHT FOR THE RIGHT TO TAKE THE LETHAL SPEAR,

YOU'LL BE ABLE TO GET THE UPPER HAND... THIS IS YOUR OBJECTIVE, RIGHT?



PRESENTED 1 BIOS.

MEANING, YOU ACTUALLY WANT TO TAKE THE HIT, RIGHT?

GU!

YOU CHOSE THE TASER AND

KAJI-SAMA,

A TOTALLY DIFFERENT ME

ALRIGHT. THEY SHOULDN'T HAVE GUESSED OUR BIOS YET.

QUITE A NUMBER OF THEM,

AND ALSO IT SEEMS LIKE I NOTICED THE BIOS RULE FASTER THAN

ALSO, FLOYD'S TEAM-MATES,

INTERROGATED THE GUYS WE DEFEATED

SORRY FOR MAKING YOU WAIT, KAJI!! AFTER I TOLD ORDEKA

WITH THE OUTLAWS,

HE DECIDED TO HELP US... WELL, WE'LL HAVE TO GIVE HIM SOME BIOS OR OTHER STUFF WHEN ALL OF THIS IS OVER...

GOT IT.

AH...

FROM THE WEAKLING YOU MET AT THAT TIME.

THE 2ND ROUND ENDS.

THAT'S IT.

YOU HAD 33 000 BIOS ON YOU... THERE'S NO MISTAKE, RIGHT?

33,000 BIOS.

THEN, I'LL NOW REVEAL THE

WHY WOULD FLOYD, WHO IS AN AZURA PLAYER IN HIS OWN FORTRESS...

LONG-AWAITED AMOUNT OF BIOS USED IN THIS ROUND.

IT'S QUITE UNNATURAL...

HE SHOULDN'T HAVE BEEN AWARE OF OUR PLANS TO ATTACK THE FORTRESS.

ASSOCIATE HIMSELF WITH SHADY OUTLAWS WEARING VESTS FROM OTHER COUNTRIES?

BUT, I CAN'T BE TOO OPTIMISTIC HERE.

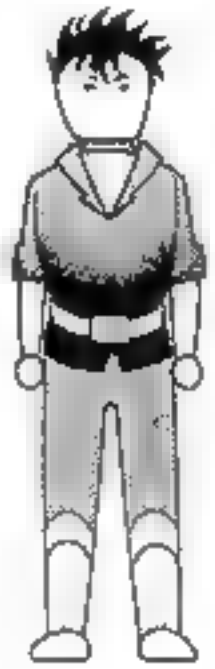
IN THAT CASE, I CAN GUESS THAT, JUST LIKE US, HE WASN'T CARRYING MUCH BIOS ON HIMSELF TO BEGIN WITH

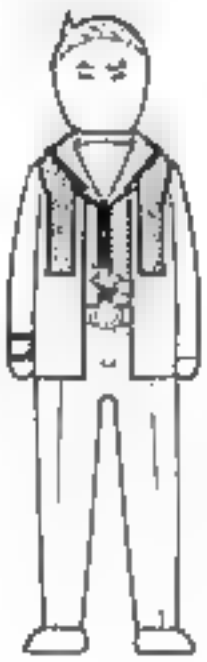
AT LEAST I CAN ASSUME THAT HE PREDICTED THAT THERE WOULD BE BATTLES...?

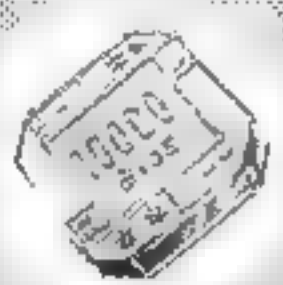
32,489 BIOS

VS

39,987 BIOS







+

+ ORDEKA'S 33,000 BIOS

THEN IT WOULD ADD UP TO 43,000 BIOS IN TOTAL.

LET'S ESTIMATE HE HAD AS MUCH AS 10,000 BIOS ON HIM

1ST GAME
1. 10 BIOS
2. 3000 BIOS
3. 2 BIOS

2ND GAME
1. 1 BIOS

TOTAL
3013 BIOS

THEN, NOW SUBSTRACTING

ALL THE BIOS HE USED UP UNTIL NOW.

32,488 BIOS

32,487 BIOS

I'LL TURN THE TABLES.

AND I USED ONLY 1 BIOS...

LET'S SUPPOSE HE BET 7,500 BIOS,

THEN, IN THIS SECOND ROUND,

AND IF MY ASSUMP-TIONS ARE CORRECT...

IF HE USED 7,500 BIOS,

I'LL END UP HAVING MORE BIOS THAN HIM!!

FLOYD-SAMA'S BET...

8000

8,000 BIOS.

FLOYD LEE BET BIOS

8,000

REMA

REMAINING BIOS

25,487 BIOS
(STARTED WITH 36,500 BIOS)

THE ONE WHO PICKS UP THE GUN WILL DEFINITELY WIN!

GUN

VS

RUBBER SHIELD.

IT'S A WINNING COMBINATION IN THIS GAME.

ALL-IN.

I'LL GO

HE USED 8,000 BIOS.... I CAN DO IT...

I'LL BET ON IT!!

BEFORE COMING HERE...
FLOYD LEE SHOULD NOT HAVE BEEN CARRYING THAT MUCH BIOS ON HIM

LAST ROUND OF THE 2ND GAME!!
IT'S THE

IS JUST LIKE PIERCING THE HOLE OF A NEEDLE.
HIS PREDIC-TION

GAMBLER.

KAJI TAKAOMI.

ALL THE EMOTIONS USELESS FOR THE GAME'S STRATEGY.

SHUT-TING OUT

"DADDY" WILL PRAISE YOU.

HAVING BEEN COMPLETELY CONCEN-TRATED ON

HP

WHAT'S THAT?

KAJI TAKAOMI...

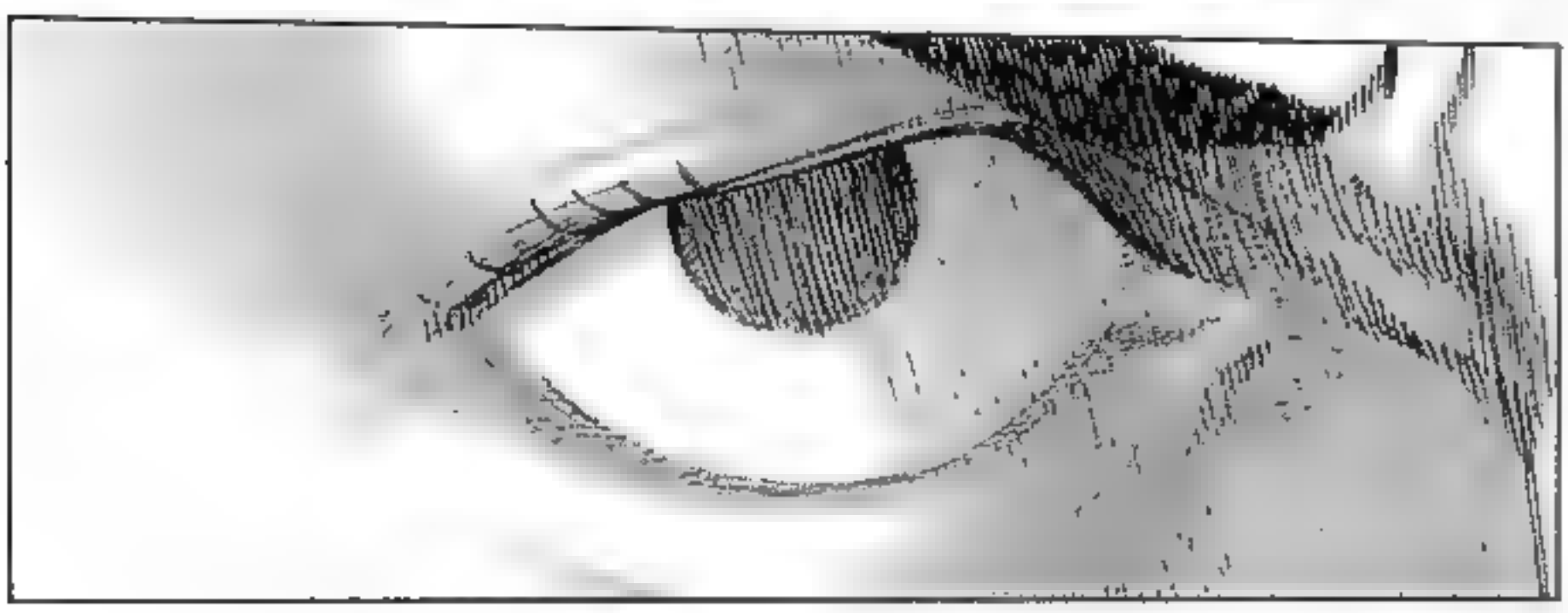
START!!

IF YOU DON'T WANNA DIE,

YES!

I WON!

NOW!! STEP OUT OF THE WHITE LINE



SHOOT ME.

KAJI...

LET'S

KILL ONE HUNTER.

KAJI!!

IS HE STUPID ...?

YOU'RE UNDERESTIMATING ME, HUH. THIS IS A DUEL. IF IT WAS BAKU-SAN, HE WOULD DEFINITELY HAVE SHOT YOU... ME TOO...

.....

BAKU-SAN,

ROLL

BANG

THAT'S IT.

CLANK

SHUT OUT EVERY-THING.

KAJI TAKAOMI HAD COMPLETELY

"WHETHER HE WAS ABLE TO SHOOT SOMEONE WITH HIS OWN HANDS".

"FACING HIMSELF".

APART FROM THE GAME'S STRATEGY

AND EVEN... "THE METHOD TO WIN"

... WON...

FLOYD SAW THROUGH THAT SMALL OPENING IN THIS GAMBLER'S HEART.

KAJI TAKAOMI,

JUST LIKE PIERCING THE HOLE OF A NEEDLE.

FOR YOU TO BE ABLE TO PULL THE TRIGGER.

THERE ARE STILL TOO MANY STEPS FOR YOU TO OVERCOME.

KAJI... YOU'RE COMPLETELY EXPOSED.

ALL OF IT HAD BEEN FULLY LEFT BEHIND.

I WON...

IT'S MY WIN...

I SHOULD HAVE ALREADY WON...

CAN NOT SHOOT PEOPLE. YOU

IT'S MY...

I WON...

YOU'RE NOT YET EVEN SOMEONE FROM "THIS WORLD".

KAJI'S REMAINING BIOS
0 BIOS

BA... BAKU-SAN..

I SHOULD HAVE ALREADY WON

HE KNEW THAT I CAN'T... SHOOT... I...I...

THAT GUY.. HIS GOAL WAS TO MAKE ME GO ALL-IN FROM THE BEGIN-NING...

HOW-EVER,

I WILL SHOOT YOU WITHOUT ANY HESITATION, YOU SEE.

REMAINING BIOS
25,486 BIOS

FLOYD LEE'S BET
1 BIOS

HOW DO YOU OVERCOME THE WALL OF HESITATION IN THE NAME OF MORALITY?

HOW DO YOU WIN? YOU ARE NOT PREPARED TO DIRTY YOUR OWN HANDS YET.

THOSE POWERLESS ATTACKS

SHOWED YOUR MIND COMPLETELY.

WOULD YOU HAVE SHOT ME IF I WAS A DISGUSTING CRIMINAL?

YOU AND I ARE IN DIFFERENT DIVISIONS.

AS LONG AS YOU'RE STILL HESITANT ABOUT THAT,

CHAPTER 370
THE STRENGTH OF THIS SIDE

YOU FOOL!

AFTER SEEING MY TRUE NATURE!

YOU WILL BE

ASTO-NISHED.

AFTER EXPERIEN-CING THE PAIN OF

!!

BEING SLASHED IN HALF,

THE TASTE OF THE MERCI-LESS BULLET,

AND THE LONELINESS WHEN YOUR DEATH IS APPRDACH-ING!

BAKU-SAN,

I... WAS DEFEATED.

IT'S KINDA

SCREWED UP, ISN'T IT... KAJI-CHAN?

BUT IT CAN'T BE HELPED, RIGHT?

IT'S MY BAD.

WELL,

GETTING YOU INVOLVED IN THESE KINDS OF THINGS,

BAKU-SAN...

IT'S OKAY,

.....

KEEP IT TOGETHER, KAJI!

WHAT WERE YOU MUMBLING JUST NOW?

KAJI!

KAJI, THERE'S NO TIME!! HURRY!

CHAMP-SAN.

AH,

BAKU-SAN...

THE LIMITED 5 MINUTES ENDED WHILE YOU WERE DAZED.

SO THE "RUBBER SHIELD" WAS AUTOMATICALLY CHOSEN BECAUSE IT WAS PUT ON THE RIGHT.

KAJI'S REMAINING BIOS

0 BIOS

ALRIGHT,

IT'S THE 1ST ROUND OF THE 3RD GAME.

PLEASE PRESENT YOUR BIOS, KAJI SAMA.

KAJI...

HUH?

WHAT.. WHAT ABOUT THE SHIELD?

...

SHIT... BAKU-SAN...

!!

THE 2ND GAME!! I SHOULD HAVE WON IN THE LAST ROUND!

THE... THE 3RD GAME!?

WOOD ○
RUB-BER ×
IRON ×
SWORD

IN THAT SITUATION, ALTHOUGH IT ONLY WORKS ON THE WOODEN SHIELD,

SWORD

THE SITUATION WILL BE 60/50 AT WORST, SO THE ONE CHOOSING THE "SPEAR" WON'T BE AT A DISADVANTAGE.

NO MATTER WHAT SHIELD THE OPPONENT CHOOSES, FROM THE 2ND ROUND ON,

KAJI-SAMA,

YOU CHOSE THE JAPANESE SWORD IN THE 1ST ROUND OF THE 2ND GAME.

FOR THE PLAYER CHOOSING THE "SPEAR", CHOOSING THE JAPANESE SWORD IN THE 1ST ROUND IS REASONABLE.

I'M TOO ASHAMED TO MEET BAKU-SAM

DAMN IT!!

KAJI...

EVEN IF I'LL LOSE MY LIFE...

I CAN'T LOSE...

SO, AS LONG AS FLOYD SPENDS A A LARGE AMOUNT OF BIOS, YOU WILL THEN GO ALL-IN TO GET THE GUN IN THE 3RD ROUND... I BELIEVE THAT'S THE WHOLE PROCESS OF THE LAST GAME.

!

AFTER SEEING THROUGH IT, FLOYD CHOSE THE "IRON SHIELD"

THAT'S THE SAFEST STRATEGY IN THE 1ST ROUND, THE "JAPANESE SWORD"

IN THAT CASE, THE COMBINATIONS AFTERWARDS WILL BE EXTREMELY ADVANTAGEOUS FOR YOU, WHO'S HOLDING THE GUN.

WOOD ○ TASER

RUB-BER ○ GUN

AND THEN, YOU WILL USE THE "TASER" TO WASTE FLOYD'S BIOS.

WOOD

TASER

RUB-

GUN

KAJI...

FOR BAKU-SAN...

I CAN'T LOSE...

WHAT HAP-PENS TO ME_

NO MATTER

KAJI.

CALM DOWN FIRST.

LOOK AT ME.

"BAKU-SAN", YOU SAID!?

HUH!?

ESPECIALLY IN THIS KIND OF SITUATION! ARE YOU OUT OF YOUR MIND!?

!!

STOP BEING RIDICU-LOUS!!

THROW AWAY THAT KIND OF SLAVE MENTALITY ALREADY!!

TO SACRIFICE YOURSELF FOR SOMEONE ELSE!?

WERE YOU BORN IN THIS WORLD

SOMETHING IS WRONG WITH YOU...

THE MATCH FIRST,

LEAVING ASIDE

HE SAVED ME...

I...

YOU KNOW NOTHING ...

CAN YOU REALLY ACCEPT TO DIE FOR SOMEONE?

BUT,

I KNOW WHAT YOU MEAN.

I OWE HIM A LOT TOO.

I SEE.

I OWE BAKU-SAN A LOT...

EVER WORK HARD FOR YOUR OWN SELF...

BEFORE YOU

IS NOTHING MORE THAN RUNNING AWAY.

AT LEAST I THINK, SACRIFICING YOURSELF FOR SOMEONE ELSE,

BAKU-SAN...

IT'S OKAY,

I CAN PERFECTLY SCAM SOMEBODY BY BEING HIT BY A CAR.

IS YOURSELF, ISN'T IT?

THE FIRST ONE YOU SHOULD SAVE

ONLY WHEN YOU CHERISH YOURSELF WILL YOU BE ABLE TO CARE FOR OTHERS.

I JUST

WANT TO BE PRAISED...

BUT...

I WAS SCARED ...

EVEN...

EVEN IF YOU DIE?

IS IT REALLY OKAY...

SHUT UP...

CHAMP-SAN...

YOU'RE ANNOY-ING,

IS IT REALLY OKAY.

KAJI?

I DON'T WANT...

TO DIE...

I...

!?

CHAMP-SAN... THAT BIOS IS...!?

TAKE THIS, KAJI.

BECAUSE KAJI IS...

WE FELT RELIEVED AFTER SEEING THAT YOU DIDN'T FIRE...

KINDA SCARY SOME-TIMES.

AND I WANT TO WIN TOO.

ACTUALLY, I REALLY WISH YOU'LL STOP PLAYING THIS GAME...

BUT,

ACTUALLY,

I KNOW, MADARAME AND KAJI, YOU TWO ARE RISKING YOUR LIVES TO ACCOMPLISH SOMETHING...

WAS BORROWED FROM REFEREE KADOKURA

BUT AFTER LEARNING THAT YOU'RE NOT DIFFERENT FROM US, WE WANT TO HELP YOU.

BY USING OUR CITIZENSHIPS AS A COLLATERAL. AFTER ALL, WE DIDN'T BET OUR LIVES IN THIS GAME.

THE BIOS

WE'LL STILL ACCEPT YOU, KAJI.

...

WE CAN DO FOR YOU.

THIS IS ALL

NO MATTER WHAT YOU DO... OR WHATEVER HAPPENS,

AFTER-WARDS,

BUT THAT'S FINE.

ALTHOUGH THOSE KINDS OF PEOPLE ARE STRONG, WE ALSO HAVE A STRENGTH DIFFERENT FROM THEIRS ON THIS SIDE.

FLOYD SAID THAT "KAJI IS STILL NOT SOMEONE FROM THAT WORLD",

FOR YOUR-SELF!

FIGHT!

IT CAN'T BE HELPED, RIGHT?

BUT,

MY BAD.

HUH?

NO, IT'S NOT!

I WANTED TO PLEASE YOU...

I WANTED TO REPAY YOU, BAKU-SAN...

I...

IT'S NOT LIKE THAT!

I WILL NEVER DO IT AGAIN!!

I HAVE BEEN RISKING MY LIFE AND RUNNING AWAY FOR THOSE REASONS!!

BUT FROM NOW ON,

KU

KU

KU

KU

KU

KU

I WILL

I WILL WIN THIS MATCH.

STAND AS BAKU-SAN'S EQUAL.

CHOOSES THE SPEARS

CHOOSES THE SHIELDS

FLOYD LEE VS KAJI TAKAOMI

REMAINING BIOS

25,486 BIOS

REMAINING BIOS

10,000 BIOS

I WILL

WIN!

3RD GAME

GAME OF CONTRADICTION

BETTING BIOS

1ST ROUND

BET
1 BIOS.

110
BET YOUR BIOS AGAIN.
!
FLOYD LEE.

FLOYD ALSO BET 1 BIOS...?
WHICH MEANS.
BET... BET AGAIN...

THE IRON SHIELD... NO,
1 BIOS...
THE RUBBER SHIELD?
WHICH MEANS HE DIDN'T CHOOSE THE WEAKEST WOODEN SHIELD...

WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?

BOTH SIDES BET 1 BIOS.

CHAPTER 371 EXPLODE

GETTING THE "SHIELD".

IT MEANS THAT NEITHER SIDE CARES ABOUT

ON THE OTHER HAND, FLOYD CHOSE AN "INDECISIVE SPEAR".

HE WON'T TAKE MUCH DAMAGE.

IN OTHER WORDS, KAJI CHOSE A "STRONG SHIELD" SO THAT EVEN IF HE LOSES,

IRON

RUB-BER

YEAH... I UNDERSTAND WHY KAJI BET 1 BIOS.

HE SHOULD STILL HAVE OVER 20 THOUSAND BIOS.

BUT WHY DID FLOYD BET 1 BIOS TOO?

WHISPER

BUT CHAMP-SAN,

WHY DID HE DO THAT?

SOMETHING'S OFF...

THEN WHY DID HE BET 1 BIOS?

KAJI SPENT 32,488 BIOS IN THE LAST ROUND... HE SHOULD BE THINKING THAT KAJI HAS SPENT ALL OF HIS BIOS.

!

MAYBE IT'S BECAUSE HE THOUGHT KAJI WAS BROKE, SO 1 BIOS WOULD BE ENOUGH...

BUT IF HE DID THAT BECAUSE HE KNEW KAJI STILL HAD BIOS.

DON'T TELL ME... THIS REFEREE...

THERE'S NO GUARANTEE THAT WE CAN GET OUR BIOS BACK FROM THEM, SO I'M NOT PLANNING TO LEND BIOS TO THEM.

TO KAJI AND FLOYD, WHO MAY DIE IN THIS GAME...

EXCUSE ME, I HAVE SOMETHING TO DISCUSS WITH YOU.

WHAT DO YOU WANT?

OF COURSE... YOU CAN DO THAT.

AFTER JUDGING THE SITUATION, A REFEREE CAN STILL LOAN HIS MONEY, RIGHT..?

BUT IF THERE'S A GUARANTEE,

I DID.

WHAT IS THIS MAN THINKING...!?

SERIOUSLY!?

PEEK

...

DID YOU..

LEND IT TO SOME-ONE...?

IF I TOLD YOU,

WOULD YOU BELIEVE ME?

I WILL TAKE MY LEAVE.

…

HOW MUCH DID YOU LEND?

YOU'RE ONLY HERE TO SAY THAT? WHAT KIND OF CONSPIRACY IS THIS?

TSK...

IN ORDER TO CHECK IF KAJI REALLY BORROWED MONEY, I BET 1 BIOS ON PURPOSE, BUT HE BET 1 BIOS AS WELL...

IF THAT 1 BIOS WASN'T SOMETHING HE SCRAPED TOGETHER, BUT INSTEAD BORROWED, THEN THAT 1 BIOS BET IS "CALCULATED".

IF THIS GUY TOLD THEM THAT HE LENT BIOS TO US...

WHICH MEANS HE HASN'T GIVEN UP THE MATCH...

I CAN'T DROP MY GUARD.

IRON.

IT'S EITHER RUBBER OR

SINCE HE BET 1 BIOS, IT'S NOT THE WOODEN SHIELD.

YOU NEED TO TAKE RISKS TO GET CHANCES.

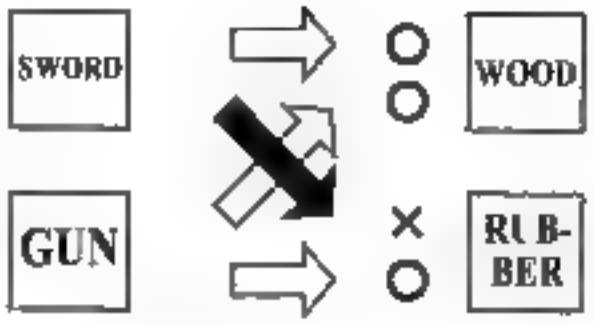
IN THIS GAME,

THAT GUY KNOWS IT WELL.

WHICH ONE...

WHICH ONE DID HE CHOOSE...?

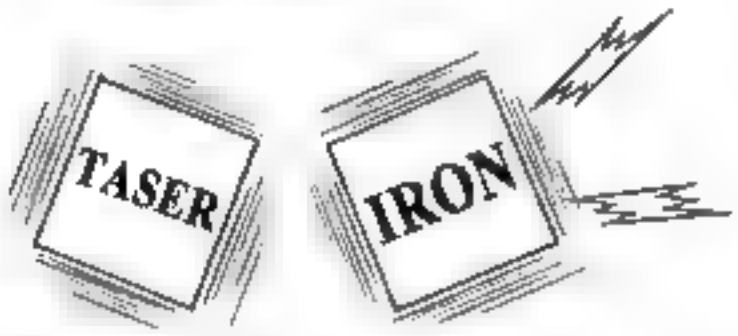
AND THE INITIATIVE WILL BE HELD BY THE ONE CHOOSING THE SPEAR, ME, BECAUSE I HAVE THE UNBLOCKABLE GUN.

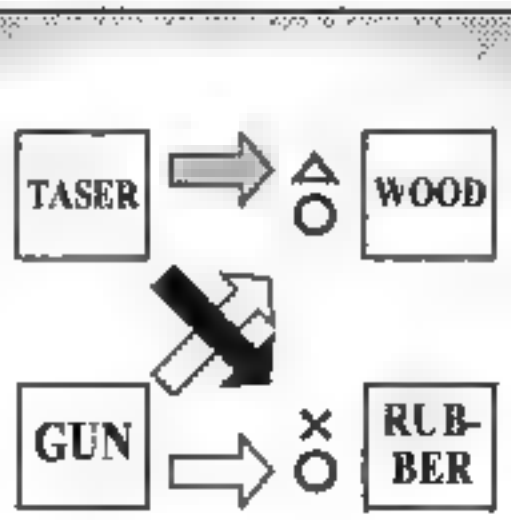


IN THE CASE WHERE KAJI CHOOSES THE IRON SHIELD,

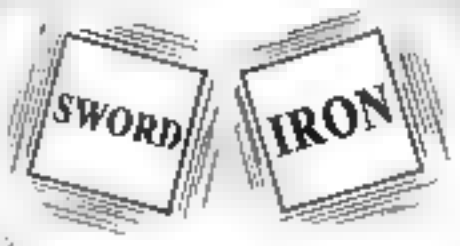
IF I CHOOSE THE TASER,

THE ONE WHO GETS THE SHIELD WILL BE PARALYZED.





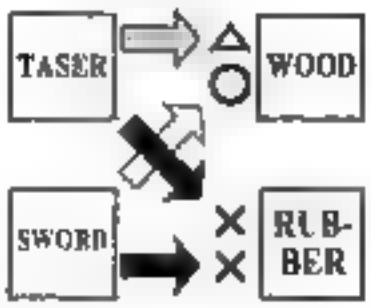
AS THE ONE CHOOSING THE SPEAR, I WILL STILL HAVE THE INITIATIVE.



IF IT'S NOT THE TASER BUT THE SWORD,

ONLY THE GUN...

EVEN IF I CHOOSE THE GUN, THE SITUATION AFTERWARDS WILL ONLY BE 50/50.



IT'LL ONLY BE 50/50.

BUT EVEN SO,

ONLY WHEN I CHOOSE THE GUN WILL THE IRON SHIELD BE USEFUL.

GUN

RUB-BER

THERE'S A CHANCE THAT THE GUN WILL SIMPLY END THE GAME.

ON THE OTHER HAND, IF HE CHOOSES THE RUBBER SHIELD IN THE 1ST ROUND,

50/50 AFTER-WARDS

TASER

WOOD

GUN

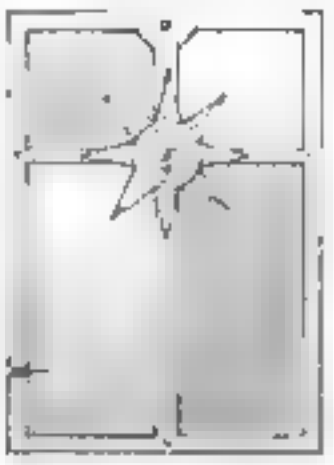
IRON

IT WILL BE

SWORD

RUB-BER

IF I CHOOSE THE SWORD,



MORE ADVANTAGEOUS FOR THE ONE CHOOSING THE SHIELD AFTERWARDS.

SWORD

WOOD

GUN

IRON

IT WILL BE

TASER

RUB-BER

IF I CHOOSE THE TASER,

WHAT KAJI CHOSE IS

RUBBER...

THE RUBBER SHIELD.

IF I CHOOSE THE GUN, THE SITUATION WILL BE EXTREMELY DANGEROUS FOR HIM.

BUT INDEED, THE MORE USEFUL ONE IS THE...

RUBBER SHIELD.

BET 1 BIOS, SO IT'S DEFINITELY NOT THE GUN.

FLOYD LEE

IT SEEMS STRANGE TO CHOOSE THE TASER.

BUT,

IT'S THE TASER OR THE JAPANESE SWORD.

IT SHOULD BE THE SWORD!

THE CHANCE OF HIM CHOOSING THE SWORD IS QUITE HIGH.

IN THE 1ST ROUND",

"CHOOSING THE TASER

JUST LIKE WHAT I ANALYZED IN THE 2ND GAME,

THE TASER ISN'T A GOOD CHOICE.

I GUESS I HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO GET THE RUBBER SHIELD...?

IN ORDER TO PRESERVE MY BIOS,

NO MATTER WHAT, I'VE CHOSEN THE RUBBER SHIELD.

NOW HE CAN ONLY TRY TO GET THE RUBBER SHIELD.

KAJI CHOSE THE RUBBER SHIELD.

WHO WILL GET IT... IN THE END...?

SCRAMBL-ING...

BUT NOW.

BOTH SIDES RISKED THEM-SELVES AND BET 1 BIOS.

THEY ARE GOING TO SCRAMBLE FOR THIS RUBBER SHIELD...

GET IT...?

WHO WILL .....

...

BESIDES, IT WAS THIS PERSON WHO CHOSE THE RUBBER SHIELD IN THE FIRST PLACE.

WE ARE AT A DISADVANTAGE. HE MUST HAVE FIGURED OUT THAT KAJI CHOSE THE "IRON SHIELD" OR THE "RUBBER SHIELD"..

BUT IF FLOYD BET 1 BIOS BECAUSE HE KNEW THE TRUTH,

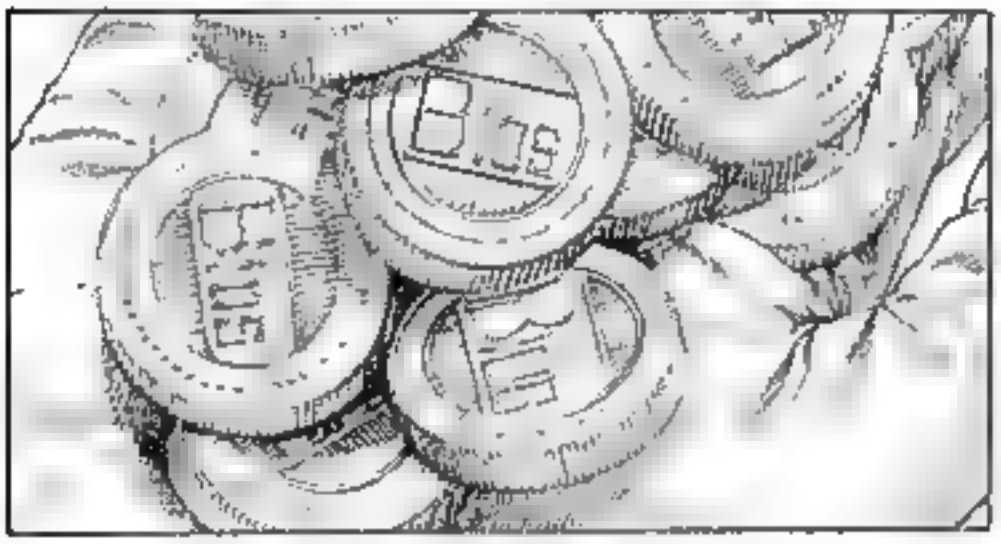
IF FLOYD THINKS THAT KAJI HAS NO BIOS, WE MAY STILL HAVE A CHANCE TO MAKE AN UNEXPECTED MOVE...

IF THE BETS ARE STILL THE SAME, WE'LL CONSIDER A SOLUTION.

PLEASE RE-BET YOUR BIOS WITH AN AMOUNT FROM 2 BIOS ON.

KAJI-SAMA,

WHAT IS HE THINKING ...?



THIS FARCE OF SHIELD SCRAMBL-ING.

I'M NOT GOING TO PLAY...

I KNOW, KADOKURA-SAN.

BUT, IF YOU ASK ME, I'D SAY...

DROP

I'M NOT PLANNING TO GET THE SHIELD.

!!

IT'S GET-TING...

A LITTLE BIT EXCITING!

2 BIOS, HUH...

THERE'S NO NEED FOR ME TO WASTE MY BIOS.

OF COURSE. I'VE FIGURED OUT THAT HE CHOSE THE RUBBER SHIELD.

GETTING THE RUBBER SHIELD IS THE BEST.

...

YOU'RE CHAMP, RIGHT...?

JUST NOW,

HUH?

YOU SAID A GOOD LINE.

?

3RD GAME

GAME OF CONTRA-DICTION

1ST ROUND

START
!!

THE RUBBER SHIELD,

VS

THE TASER

IT'S AN INVALID COMBI-NATION

THAT CAN'T BE OVER-TURNED.

I...
I...

YOU THOUGHT CHOOSING THE JAPANESE SWORD IS THE COMMON STRATEGY, HUH. YOUR THOUGHTS ARE SO EASY TO READ.

USING THE JAPANESE SWORD TO SLASH THE RUBBER SHIELD WITH FULL STRENGTH AND KILL ME, DIDN'T YOU?

AFTER BRACING YOURSELF UP, YOU WANTED TO ENGRAVE YOUR DESTINATION INTO THE OPPONENT AND YOURSELF.

HOWEVER, IT'S IN VAIN. YOUR DESTINATION WILL VANISH...

IT'S NOT...

THE JAPANESE SWORD!?

ON THE ENEMY AND MYSELF...

I CAN'T EVEN

TAKE REVENGE

IF KAJI HAD CHOSEN THE IRON SHIELD, FLOYD WOULD HAVE TAKEN MASSIVE DAMAGE... WHAT NERVE HE HAS!?

IT'S THE TASER!?

ドシュ

!

ドシュ

ドシュ

AT THAT TIME...

AH...

WAS ...

THAT KAJI SHOT

THE BULLET

CLINK

AH!

44

OYA OYA.
LOOKS LIKE YOU WERE BEING TOO FOCUSED ON KAJI ONLY... AND MISSED OTHER THINGS
GI... EEK...

WHAT GREAT JUDGEMENT, KAJI SAMA.
BY THE WAY, NOW'S A GOOD TIME TO LAUGH.
YOU GAVE UP THE RUBBER SHIELD,
KA...
KADO-KURA-SAN...
BO HO HO... YOU'RE FULL OF OPENINGS...

GAME OF CONTRADICTION

FLOYD LEE — BEGINNING — RAJI TAKAOMI

36,500 BIOS — 35,500 BIOS

CHOOSES SPEARS — 1ST GAME — CHOOSES SHIELDS

10 BIOS.....WOODEN SHIELD [1] TASER.....

CHOOSES SHIELDS — 2ND GAME — CHOOSES SPEARS

CHOOSES SPEARS — 3RD GAME — CHOOSES SHIELDS

[1]

[1]

REMAINDER

CHAPTER 4
A PROFOUND DARKNESS

SAID A GOOD LINE.

YOU

FLOYD LEE,

ONE OF THE TRUTHS.

THAT IS INDEED

"WE ALSO HAVE A STRENGTH DIFFERENT FROM THEIRS ON THIS SIDE."

HOWEVER THAT STRENGTH IS,

FOR A CERTAIN STANCE,

OR AN OBJECTIVE.

YOU ARE ABLE TO GIVE UP ANYTHING OR ANYONE WITHOUT HESITATION.

YOU AND KAJI,

IF WE WERE TO DIVIDE THEIR SIDE AND OUR SIDE,

DO YOU KNOW THE DIFFERENCE?

PEOPLE LIKE YOU ARE INDEED VERY STRONG...

ヒヒヒ

BY CALCU-LATING MERITS ONLY

HOWEVER, THEY HAVE A STRONG MENTALITY THAT WON'T BE SHACKLED

THOSE GUYS ARE EASILY SHAKEN OFF THEIR AIM, HESITATING TO THE SMALLEST OF TROUBLES

IN COMPA-RISON,

ORDINARY MEN HAVE

ONLY THOSE

THAT'S THE STRENGTH!

THE ORDINARY MAN KAJI, CRIPPLED BY HESITATION

SHOWED A SPECIFIC KIND OF TALENT.

THERE-FORE

KAJI-SAMA, IT'S TIME TO CHOOSE THE SHIELD FOR THE 2ND ROUND.

E-

EXCUSE ME,

KADOKURA-SAN,

...

AND CHOSE THE RUBBER SHIELD ON PURPOSE DUE TO THAT REASON...

DON'T TELL ME THAT YOU KNEW THE RUBBER SHIELD HAD BEEN DAMAGED BY MY GUNSHOT,

WITHOUT ANY EXPECTATION OF RETURNS OR BENEFITS,

IF KAJI-SAMA WAS THE ONE TO GET THE SHIELD,

YOU WOULD HAVE BEEN THE ONE WHO'S LYING DOWN THERE RIGHT NOW, RIGHT?

GRIN

HUH?

WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?

THAT YOU PEOPLE DO NOT HAVE.

WITHIN THE RULES",

HE HAS A TALENT TO

"MAKE THE REFEREE STAND BY HIM

ARE ABLE TO CAPTIVATE MANY PEOPLE.

IN A WAY, ONLY THEY, WHO WENT DOWN ON THEIR HANDS AND KNEES,

THIS BECAME QUITE AN INTERESTING MATCH...

NO MATTER WHICH ONE GETS IT, IT'S A GREAT HAPPENING FOR ME ANYWAY

WELL...

WE HAVE A CHANCE!!

CHANCE!

YES!

YE...

FLOYD

OVER 20,000 BIOS

ALTHOUGH KAJI'S BIOS IS MOST LIKELY STILL LESS THAN FLOYD'S,

KAJI

9,990 BIOS

THE UPPER HAND RIGHT NOW!!

HE HAS

JAPANESE SWORD

THE SITUATION OF THE REMAINING

WOODEN SHIELD

GUN

SPEARS AND SHIELDS, ON TOP OF THAT,

IRON SHIELD

FLOYD HAS TAKEN GREAT DAMAGE DUE TO THE TASER...

ZOIL ZOIL ZOIL

HP 0%

HE WON'T BE ABLE TO PICK UP THE HEAVY IRON SHIELD EITHER

IRON SHIELD

NEEDLESS TO SAY THE WOODEN SHIELD WHICH IS THE WEAKEST, CAN'T PROTECT HIM WITH HIS BODY IN THAT STATE.

WOODEN SHIELD

GUN VS WOOD

SWORD VS WOOD

NO MATTER WHICH COMBINATION IT IS,

BUT TO GET THE SPEAR.

FLOYD HAS NO CHOICE

GUN VS IRON

SWORD VS IRON

FOR HIM,

USELESS JUNK.

NOTHING MORE THAN

ANY OF THE SHIELDS RIGHT NOW IS

WHERE HE HAS NO OTHER CHOICE THAN TO TAKE THE SPEAR.

HE HAS BEEN PUT IN A SITU-ATION ...

TWO TIMES IN A ROW.

AND IT'S

嘘吐い奴。

WOULD YOU BELIEVE ME?

IF I TOLD YOU,

...

HOW MUCH DID YOU LEND?

YOU'RE ONLY HERE TO SAY THAT? WHAT KIND OF CONSPIRACY

LEAVE

"CITIZEN-SHIP".

IF I RECALL CORRECTLY, IT WAS WORTH AROUND 10,000 BIOS ON THE MARKET.

IF IT WAS FROM THOSE GUYS, THEN THE COLLATERAL SHOULD BE...

THAT REFEREE...

HOW MUCH BIOS DID HE LEND HIM...?

TAKES THE SPEAR IN THE NEXT ROUND?

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF HE

FLOYD LEE,

IT'S NOT THAT MUCH... I GUESS.

NO!!

WAIT...

I HAVE CHOSEN THE SHIELD.

THE ONE ON THE RIGHT, KADOKURA-SAN.

SO, HE CAN GET UP TO 20,000 BIOS.

I'VE

MADE UP MY MIND.

DRAGGED FLOYD LEE

INTO A MUD WRESTLING MATCH.

EVEN IN TERMS OF MIND GAMES, KAJI HAS NOW...

KAJI

WOODEN!!

CHOSE THE WOODEN SHIELD!

IN THIS ROUND!

HE WANTS TO FINISH IT ALL

WELL, IT'S LIKELY HIS ONLY CHOICE.

HE'LL BUY TIME IN THE 2ND ROUND WITH THE SWORD AND

2ND ROUND

3RD ROUND

GET THE GUN IN THE 3RD ROUND AFTER RECOVER-ING.

SO HE WILL CHOOSE THE JAPANESE SWORD.

FLOYD LEE CAN'T MANIPULATE THE GUN WELL WITH HIS CURRENT CONDITION.

IN THIS ROUND!!

JAPANESE SWORD

VS

WOODEN SHIELD

MEANING THE COMBIN-ATION WILL BE

THIS IS THE ONLY WAY KAJI, WHO'S LOSING IN TERMS OF BIOS, CAN ACTUALLY WIN.

AND KAJI, WHO PLANS TO TAKE THE SWORD THROUGH THIS ADVANTAGE.

KAJI
9,990 BIOS

FLOYD, WHO WANTS TO KEEP HIS BIOS FOR THE UPCOMING GUN...

FLOYD LEE
25,484 BIOS

THUMP

THUMP

THUMP

THUMP

GO.

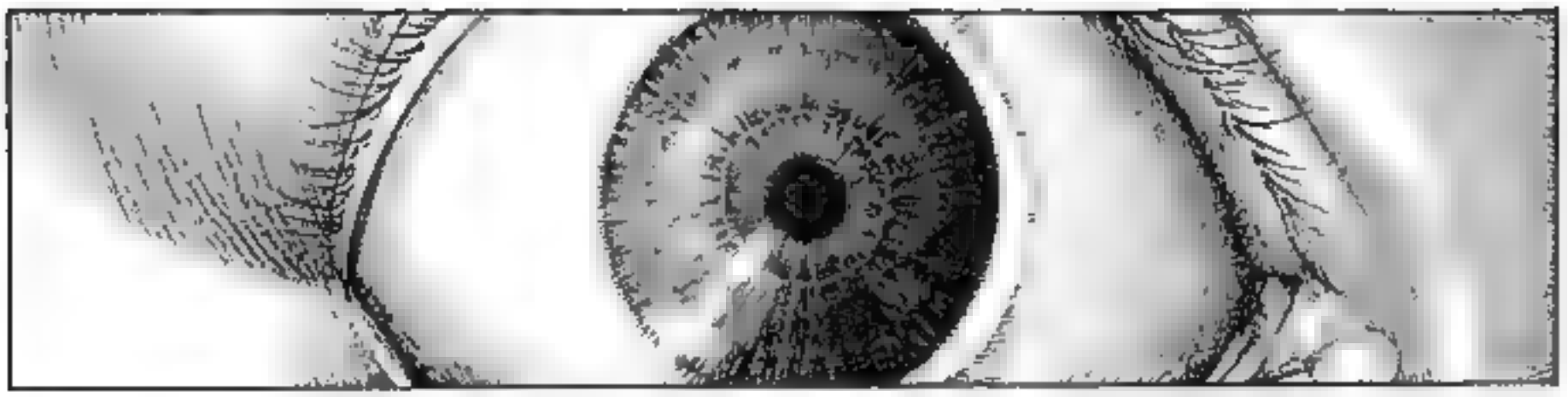
KAJI!!

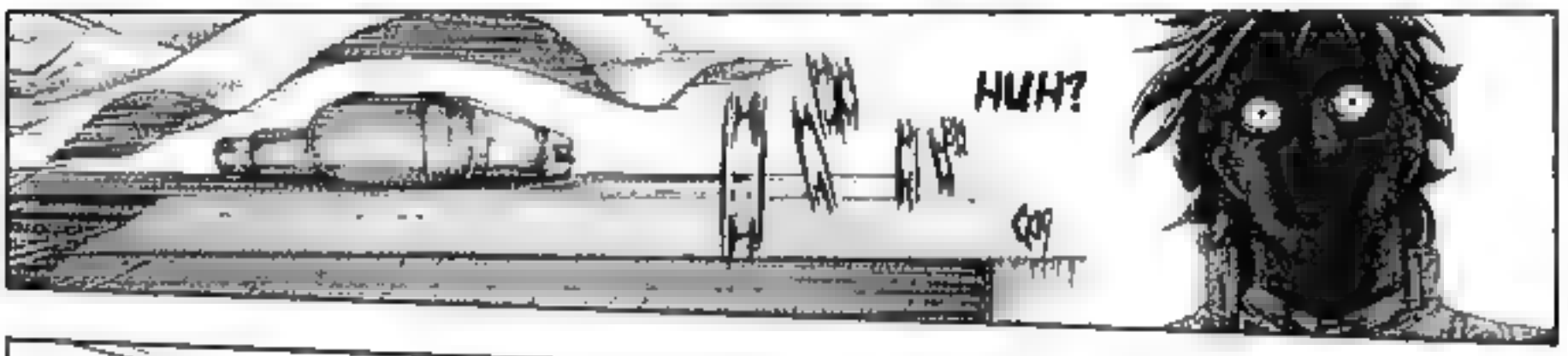
TAKE IT!

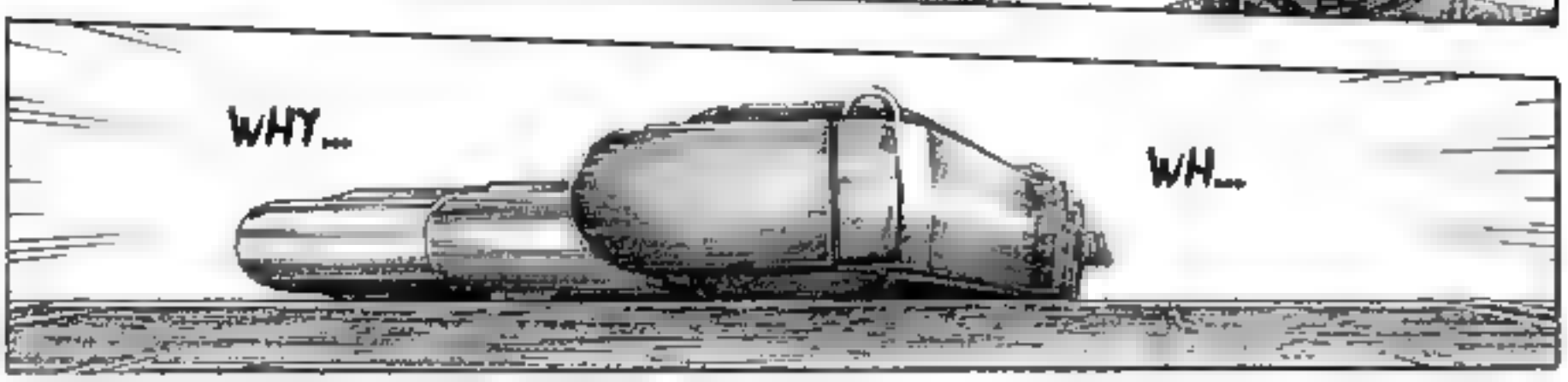
THIS IS IT!

IT'S YOUR ONLY CHANCE.

KAJI!




HUH?


WHY...
WH...

G-
GUN...
WH...

THE GUN ...!?

WHY IS IT

BOTH THE MIND GAME AND THE BIOS BETTING...

HE LOST

IT'S OVER...

IT'S HIS LAST STAND IN ORDER TO OUTWIT KAJI!!

FLOYD LEE ALSO BET EVERYTHING ON THIS ROUND.

IN OTHER WORDS,

THE HIGHEST CHUNK OF DAMAGE WENT TO HIS LEFT ARM ONLY.

+

−

THE ELECTRIC SHOCK FROM THE TASER ACTUALLY COMES FROM THE ELECTRICITY GOING BACK AND FORTH BETWEEN THE ELECTRODES

HE WAS ACTUALLY LUCKY TO HAVE RECEIVED THE TASER SHOT ON HIS LEFT ARM ONLY.

THEIR FINAL RESOLUTIONS HAVE CLASHED WITH EACH OTHER IN THIS ROUND.

WHICH AVOIDED A DIRECT HIT.

HE BET ALL HIS HOPE ON HIS RIGHT ARM,

KA-!!!

IT'S A GUN!!

RUN!!

ONESELF,

THAT IS

ONE'S BEST ALLY.

HUH?

IT'S AN EXISTENCE YOU CAN'T FULLY BELIEVE IN.

BUT ALSO...

BURIED INSIDE HIS HEART.

IT'S ALWAYS HIDDEN. THE EXPECT ATIONS OF

INSIDE ONE'S MIND,

FULFILLING HIS DEEPEST DESIRE

BANG

THIS WAS THE ENDING

HE HAD BEEN LONGING FOR.

THERE IS NO WAY THIS SHIELD

WOULD BE STURDY ENOUGH TO BLOCK THE EXPLOSIVE ACCELERATION OF A BULLET.

CHAPTER 373
THE PIERCED THROUGH EXPECTATION

AWARE YET

HE IS NOT

WAS SHOT...

OF HIS BODY

OF WHICH PART

KAJI!!

KAJI...

YOU DID ENOUGH!!

KAJI,

IT'S AL-RIGHT!!

I AM SORRY... I...

CHAMP SAN...

STAY WITH US, KAJI!!

.....

YOU'LL BE ALRIGHT IF YOU GET TREATMENT RIGHT NOW...

IT'S ALRIGHT,

I...

SHOULD HAVE ALREADY...

WERE HIDING IN YOUR HEART

YOU

SOMEONE!! QUICKLY!!

CHANGED...

SUCH A DES-TRUCTIVE WISH...

IT'S FUTILE...

.....

WHAT ARE YOU DOING!! HURRY AND...

THE BULLET DIDN'T GO THROUGH YOUR TORSO... THIS IS NOT A LETHAL WOUND.

WHAT!?

BUT STILL, YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO MOVE FOR A FEW DAYS DUE TO A HIGH FEVER..

YOU'LL BE ALRIGHT IF WE USE THE MEDICS IN THE FORTRESS

LOOK... THE BULLET WENT THROUGH YOUR ARM TO THAT WALL

THE BULLET CRUSHED KAJI'S LEFT RADIAL BONE AND

GOING OUT FROM HIS LEFT UPPER ARM.

ITS DIRECTION WAS CHANGED.

THE HUMAN BODY ISN'T MADE ALL THE SAME EVERYWHERE.

AFTER GOING THROUGH THE SHIELD.

IT'S TRUE THAT A BULLET GOING HIGH SPEED POSSESSES A HIGHLY DESTRUCTIVE POWER.

EVEN FROM THE SLIGHTEST RESISTANCE.

BULLET

BUT, THE DIRECTION CAN CHANGE

WHERE ALL THE VITAL ORGANS ARE.

HIS BODY'S TORSO,

"WAS PROTECT-ING"

KAJI

THERE ARE EVEN RARER CASES IN THE WORLD.

HOW BULLETS WILL MOVE WITHIN THE HUMAN BODY.

NO ONE CAN PREDICT ACCURATELY

MEANING,

IN ORDER TO MINIMIZE THE BULLET'S DAMAGE AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE, HE PREPARED HIMSELF THE BEST HE COULD.

STRUGGLED TO STAY ALIVE.

HE BET HIS OWN LIFE AND

HE HAD PREDICTED HE WOULD GET SHOT.

FROM THE START,

HE CORRECTLY PREDICTED THAT HE'D AVOID A LETHAL SHOT. BY PROTECTING HIS VITALS.

NEVERTHE-LESS,

FLOYD LEE

Ia

KAJI

Juuu

KAJI...

KA...

IT'S A 9MM BULLET.

ALTHOUGH IT WAS AT POINT BLANK RANGE,

KAJI... INDEED,

YOU ARE DIFFERENT FROM THAT TIME~

FLOYD LEE

10

3000

IT'S NOT A STRATEGY

ONE CAN SIMPLY PULL OFF LIKE THIS.

FLOYD USED BIOS

16000 BIOS

FLOYD REMAINING BIOS

9,484 BIOS

KAJI

1 BIOS

KAJI
REMAINING
BIOS
9,989 BIOS

THI-
THIS
GUY...

AH
...

1...

1
BIOS
...!?

TAKING THE
BULLET
INTENTIONALLY
AND
HOLDING ONTO
HIS BIOS...

THAT
READINESS...

HE WAS
REFERRING
TO

TOOK
SUCH A
HUGE RISK
ON HIS
OWN.

HE
PREDICTED
ME
CHOOSING
THE GUN
AND

I'VE

MADE
UP
MY
MIND.

OF THIS GAME OF CONTRA-DICTION!!

THE WINNER

WHAT ABOUT THE BIOS? WHO HAS MORE RIGHT NOW!? ANYWAY, IT WILL BE AN ALL-IN IN THE NEXT ROUND! THE ONE WHO WILL GET THE SPEAR IN THE NEXT ROUND WILL BE...

KAJI!!

FLOYD, REMAINING 9,484 BIOS

KAJI, REMAINING 9,989 BIOS

SPEAR AND SHIELD CREATE ONLY ONE COMBINATION.

THE REMAINING

THE JAPANESE SWORD

VS

THE IRON SHIELD

KAJI!!

TAKE IT,

GAME OF CONTRADICTION

THE 3RD ROUND OF THE 3RD GAME

START!!

I... CAN'T RAISE IT

GU OH OH OH

OH OH OH OH OH

BAKU-SAN,

I'VE MADE UP MY MIND.

I

WILL
STAND
AS YOUR
EQUAL.

NO WITH A WAY DIFFERENT THAN YOURS...

EH..? THAT IS...

ペラ...

FROM PROTOPOROS...

THE IMITATION SWORD

BAKU-SAN,

I'LL WALK MY OWN PATH,

FOR MY OWN SELF...

YOU DARE PRESS THE KILLING BUTTON BUT DON'T WANT TO STAND IN THE BLOODY RAIN_

WHAT A COWARD.

YOU JUST DON'T WANT TO DIRTY YOUR OWN HANDS, HUH.

KU...

KU KU...

WILL BECOME A COWARD

TO PROTECT MYSELF.

I

YEAH.

...

EVERYONE'S DOING THE SAME THING... WHAT'S SO PRECIOUS ABOUT YOU?

MAYBE, FOR THE NEXT ROUND,

0 BIOS

0 BIOS

NOW THAT WE'RE BOTH AT 0 BIOS.

HOW-EVER,

KAJI!

ARE YOU OKAY!?

ANYONE HAVING TO DIE FOR IT...

WE CAN FIND A WAY TO SETTLE THIS GAME WITHOUT

BOTH AT...
0 BIOS...?

KAJI...

IT'S BLOOD... STOP THE BLEEDING FIRST...

FLOYD LEE

KAJI

10

3000

IMBECILE.

SUCH AN

USED BIOS

1 Bios

000 Bios

FLOYD LEE

1 Bio

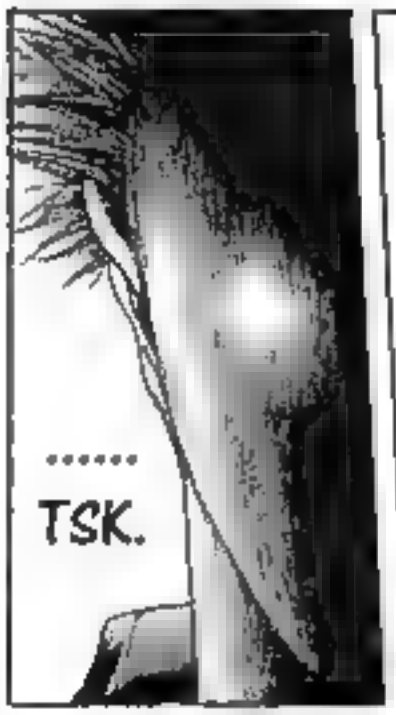
COMPLETELY SEEN THROUGH YOU...

I HAVE

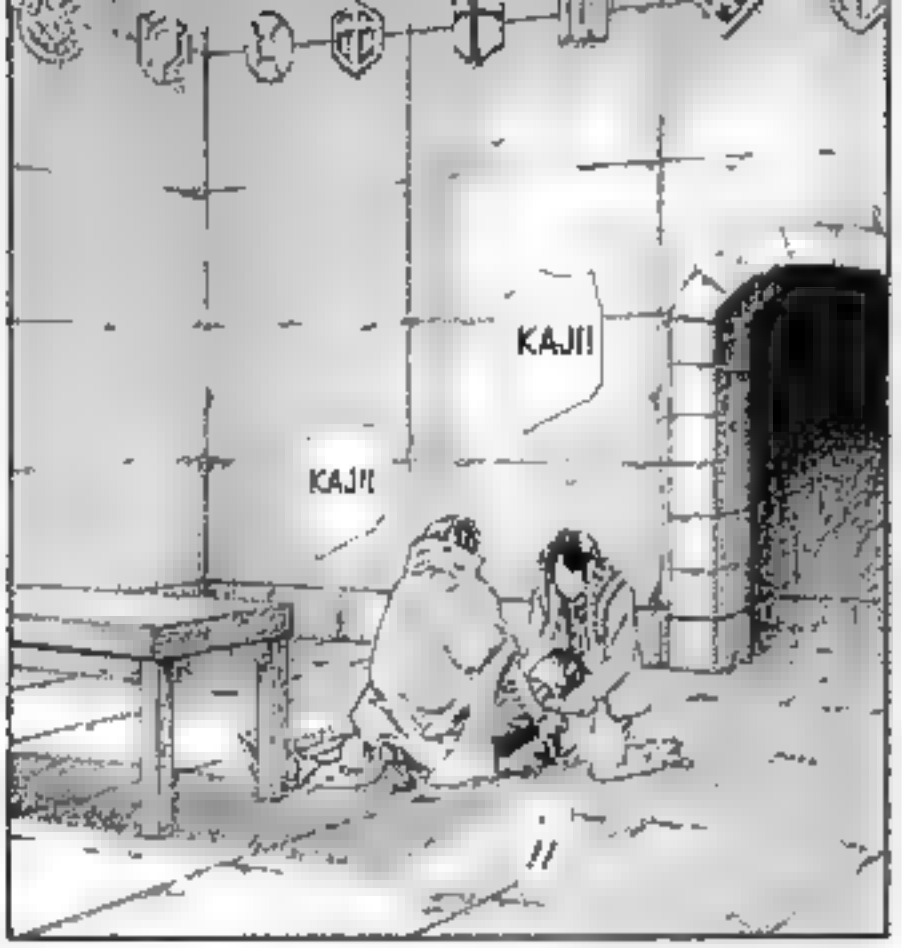
REMAINING BIOS

9,483 BIOS

嘘吐い㉟。


.....
TSK.

HE CAN'T STAND UP ANYMORE.
MORE OVER, HE'S AT 0 BIOS... IT'S MY WIN...


KAJI!
KAJI!

THE GAME IS OVER...
IT SEEMS YOU HAVE COMPLETELY READ KAJI.
FLOYD LEE,

WHEN KAJI MADE HIS SLASH.
YOUR FOOT WENT OUT OF THE WHITE LINE

IT'S YOUR LOSS.

NO...
NO WAY...

THIS MATCH,

MOVED OUT OF THE LINE?

BEING SCARED

WHA...

BY HIS PRESSURE,

MY FOOT

IS KAJI.

THE WINNER

!

KU...

STOP THE BULLSHIT.

ARE YOU UNHAPPY WITH THAT REALITY?

YOUR FOOT WENT OUTSIDE.

I...

WON ...?

AND STILL...

I FEARED AN ATTACK THAT WOULD NEVER COME AND WENT OUTSIDE THE LINE~?

AND IT WASN'T ONLY ONCE,

BUT TWICE.

I MADE ALL MY MOVES

BASED ON THE FACT THAT HE CAN'T ATTACK.

IT'S NOT LIKE I COULD...

DO ANYTHING TO A PERSON WHO ALREADY SPARED MY LIFE TWICE...

MORE-OVER,

I AM NOT A SHITHEAD WHO'D

MAKE SOME POOR PROTESTS TO SHAME MYSELF.

WHAAAT?

RYUUSEI,

THIS AIN'T THE MOMENT FOR THAT NOW!

YOU DID IT, KAJI!! YOU WON!!

WHEN I SAW HIM FOR THE FIRST TIME.

I WAS ALREADY CAPTI-VATED BY HIM

MAYBE, ONLY THEY, WHO WENT DOWN ON THEIR HANDS AND KNEES, ARE ABLE TO CAPTIVATE MANY, HUH...!

TSK,

WHAT KIND OF

RYUUSEI, BRING THE MEDICS, QUICKLY!

AL-RIGHT!

AH,

BATTLE IN THE 卍(BAN)

GAME OF CONTRADICTION

WINNER KAJI TAKAOMI

GAINED AZURA'S FORTRESS & FLOYD'S EXILE

REF NO.2 KADOKURA YUUDAI

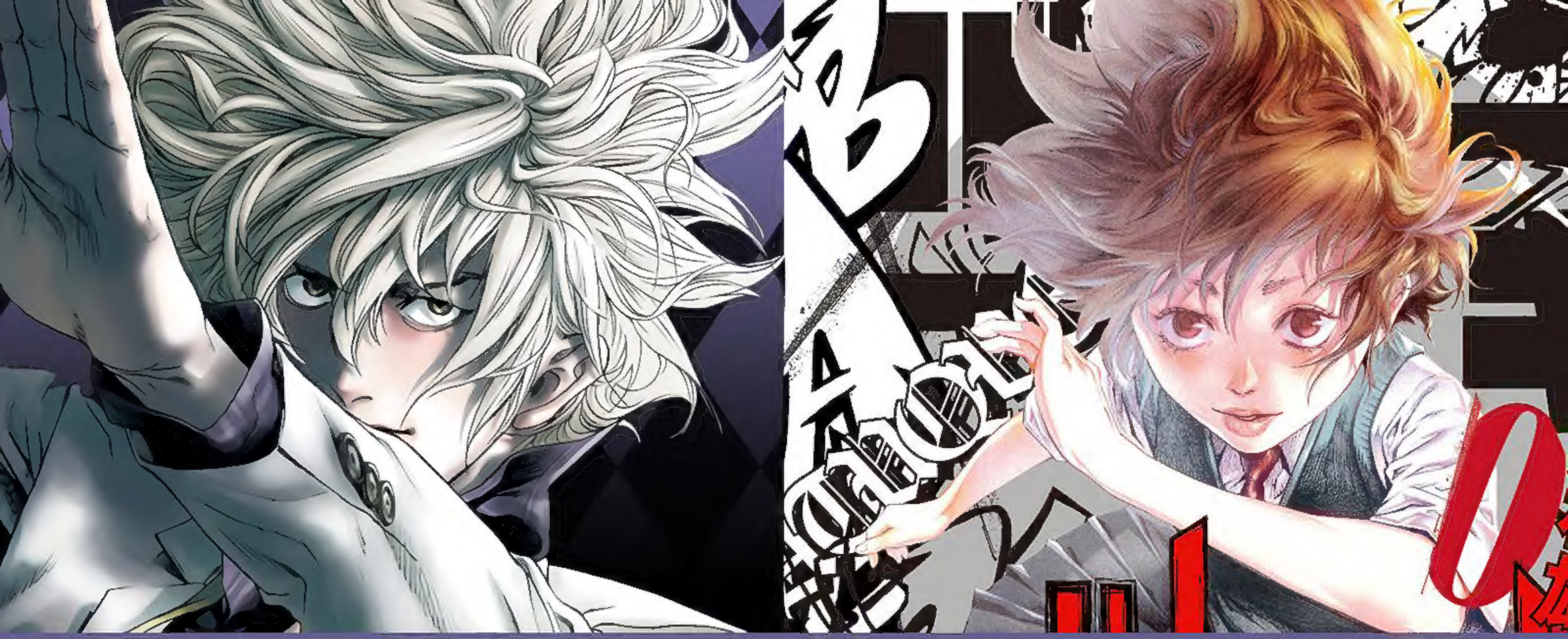
NO.4 MAKAMI BORO

FLOYD LEE LOSER

CONSPIRACY IS THIS...

嘘喰い 34 完

*THE WORD "買かれ" IN THE TITLE "買かれし期待(THE PIERCED THROUGH EXPECTATION)" COULD ALSO MEAN "ACCOMPLISHED", SO IT'S ACTUALLY "THE ACCOMPLISHED EXPECTATION".



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